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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1873. NO. 78.

FIRST EDITION

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

LONDON THE CENTER OF FIFTY MILES OF FOG.

LONDON, December 11.—The dense fog which set in on Tuesday, continues affecting the business of the city and the navigation of the Thames. No vessels have arrived in two days. The fog has caused the cattle show in Agricultural Hall to be a failure. Some of the animals have died, and owners have withdrawn others. The fog covers an area of about fifty square miles, London being the center.

BANK OF ENGLAND RATE.

LONDON, December 11.—The Bank of England rate is reduced to four and a half per cent.

LONDON PAPERS DISCUSS BAZAINE'S SENTENCE.

LONDON, December 11.—The *Times* says that Marshal Bazaine is justly convicted. The *Telegraph* considers him a sacrifice to national vanity. The *News* hopes that as the evidence was very conflicting, his sentence should be commuted to perpetual exile, or imprisonment.

France.

BAZAINE AFTER SENTENCE.

PARIS, December 11.—Soon after judgment was pronounced against Bazaine last evening, he requested that his son be allowed to visit him in prison. He refused to avail himself of the right of appeal. MacMahon will to-day decide the appeal of the court for mercy.

BAZAINE'S FATE TO BE DECIDED TO-DAY.

PARIS, December 11.—President MacMahon's decision on the appeal for mercy for Bazaine will not be announced until to-morrow.

RUMOR OF BAZAINE'S "SECLUSION."

LONDON, December 12, 6 A. M.—A special from Paris to the *Daily News* reports that the President intends to commute the sentence of Marshal Bazaine to twenty years' reclusion.

CAPTAIN SURMONT DENIES THE TRUTH OF UGLY RUMORS.

PARIS, December 11.—Captain Surmont publishes a card indignantly denying the charges that he and other officers of the Ville Du Havre showed cowardice at the time of the disaster.

Spain.

CARLIST VICTORY CLAIMED.

BAYONNE, December 11.—The Carlist Junta announce another victory over the government troops. One Republican general is reported wounded, and a number of officers killed, including several colonels.

THE COMMAND BEFORE CARTAGENA.

MADRID, December 11.—Lopez Dominique has accepted command of the government force before Cartagena.

Marine Items.

LIVERPOOL, December 11.—Steamship Hibernian, from Baltimore, has arrived.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 11.—Rates of discount by Bank of England fixed at 4½ per cent. Consols for money 93 3/8@93 ½; account 93 ½@93 ¾; 5-20s of '65, 94; do 67, 93½; 10-40s, 92¾; new 5s, 92¼; New York Central, 93¾; Erie 37½; Erie preferred 58½.

PARIS, December 11.—Rentes 59 francs.

LIVERPOOL, December 11.—Cotton quiet; middling upland 8¾d; Orleans 8¾d; sales 12,000 bales; American 5,500 bales; speculation and export 2,000 bales. Breadstuffs firm. California white wheat average 10s 4d@10s 6d; new club 9s 8d@10s; red western 10s 2d@10s 6d; red winter 10s 2d@10s 4d. Corn 28s@29s 6d. Lard 40s 6d. Tallow 28s 6d.

HAVANA.

Sensible Address by Jovellar—He Begins to See the Virginius Matter in the True Light.

HAVANA, December 11.—Captain General Jovellar this evening issued an address to the inhabitants of Cuba, saying: "The moment a treaty is signed between the Governments of Spain and the United States, my duty although painful it may be, is to comply faithfully with its terms. For this I have received final orders. Any failure to comply with the same would produce war, and war with a great power, without the aid of Spain. In the meanwhile, obey the law of necessity and the orders of the government of the Spanish Republic. Let us deliver up the Virginius and the survivors of her passengers and crew. I have faith in the nobleness of your procedures in compliance with my word.

(Signed) "JOAQUIN JOVELLAR."

WASHINGTON, PA.

Failure of a Carriage Manufacturer—Conviction of an Incendiary.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, PA., December 11, 1873.

James M. House, an extensive carriage manufacturer of this place, failed to-day. The amount of his liabilities is not certainly known.

Buck Grace, the negro charged with firing the express company's stable on November 4th, was convicted to-day.

CRIMES.

A Defaulting Treasurer.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SPRINGFIELD, O., December 11, 1873.

Theodore A. Wick, the defaulting county treasurer, who has been on trial for two weeks, was convicted of embezzlement this morning and sentenced to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of sixty thousand dollars, twice the amount of the embezzlement.

Indicted for Murder.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOCK HAVEN, December 11, 1873.

John Clark, high constable at Renovo, Frank Bennett and Patrick Sheahan were indicted, yesterday, for murder. They participated in the riot at Renovo last summer, when two or three persons were killed.

Would Kidnap his own Children.

WEST CHESTER, December 11.—Dr. Bruner, of California, with three friends, attempted last evening, at the Mansion House, to kidnap his four children, pending a suit for divorce. Mrs. Bruner, fearing such an attempt, had a police officer in her room, and in the confusion her children were removed by the landlady.

Double Murder and Suicide.

BOSTON, December 11.—David M. Kimble, of No. 10 Common street, killed his wife and step-daughter this morning, then killed himself.

Body Snatching at Corry.

ERIE, PA., December 11.—At Corry, in this county, about two o'clock this morning, some body snatchers were discovered dragging a corpse into the office of a prominent physician. It proved to be that of a former well known resident of that city. The affair is creating intense excitement.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 11, 1873.

MURAL TABLET TO ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

The Mural Tablet in the Church of Incarnation, in memory of Admiral Farragut, was unveiled last evening in the presence of a large congregation. After the services in the church, the Loyal Legion of the United States dined at the St. James hotel.

Last Rites to Bishop Armitage.

DETROIT, December 11.—The funeral of the late Bishop Armitage took place at St. John's church to-day. The ceremonies consisted of the usual interment service of the Protestant Episcopal church, and commenced at eleven o'clock and lasted about an hour. The services were conducted by Bishops McCloskey, of Michigan, Whitehouse, of Illinois, Bissell, of Vermont, and Dr. DeKoren, of Wisconsin. Over one hundred clergymen were present from Michigan and other States, and also a large delegation of clergy and laymen from all parts of Wisconsin, and a number of prominent citizens of Milwaukee. Addresses were made, and the church was filled to its utmost capacity. There was much feeling manifested by all in attendance, and the services were very impressive. The remains were interred in Elmwood cemetery, to which place they were followed by a vast concourse of people. The pall-bearers comprised three Detroit laymen and six Wisconsin clergymen. The remains arrived here yesterday at ten o'clock and lay in state in the vestibule of the church till the hour for the funeral, and were viewed by a large number of people. The features, beyond being a little emaciated, wore a quiet and peaceful look as if asleep.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

A dispatch from Boston says that Professor Agassiz is seriously ill, and there is danger of total paralysis of his muscular system.

The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad yesterday discharged fifteen telegraphers, twenty-five brakemen, five conductors, and a large number of other employees.

The United States frigate Colorado sailed from New York yesterday.

Outstanding legal tenders amount to $372,056,718.

Midshipmen Thomas S. Plunkett, Henry McCalla and Paymaster F. T. Gillett, have been ordered to recruiting duty at Chicago.

The Powhattan and the monitor Manhattan sailed from Fortress Monroe for Key West yesterday.

Professor Agassiz is better and his recovery is probable.

The steamer Leipsig, from Bremen, arrived at New York yesterday.

Joseph Buffington, of Kittanning, Pa., yesterday took a silver medal at Trinity College, Hartford, in an oratorical contest.

XLIII CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11, 1873.

The Senate met at ten o'clock. Vice President Wilson being absent, Mr. Anthony moved that Matthew H. Carpenter be elected President *pro tem* of the Senate.

Mr. STEVENSON nominated Hon. A. G. Thurman.

Messrs. Anthony and Stevenson were appointed tellers. A vote was taken by ballots and resulted as follows:

Carpenter	32
Thurman	16
Blank	2
Whole number of votes cast	48
Necessary to a choice	25

Mr. CARPENTER was elected and Mr. Thurman escorted him to the chair, before taking which, he said: "Senators please accept my grateful thanks."

The usual order, directing the Secretary to notify the President of the United States and the House of Representatives of the election of Carpenter was made.

Mr. WEST submitted a concurrent resolution that when Congress adjourns on Friday, the 19th inst., it be to meet again on Tuesday, January 6th. Objected to by Mr. Morton, who said there was a decided objection to that.

Mr. ANTHONY moved that when the Senate adjourns to-day it be to Monday next. Adopted.

Mr. SUMNER called up the bill introduced by him on the first day of the session, for the substitute of one of compound interest for legal tender notes, &c., and addressed the Senate in favor thereof. He said he was for specie payment at the earliest day, and would support any measure to secure that end. Inflation was death to business, and contraction was the proper remedy. The bill he offered had received the encouragement of prominent financiers and business men. It had been approved by the Boston Board of Trade and the leading newspapers of the East and West. The substitution proposed by his bill was in the nature of a contraction, but without taking a dollar from the people. The present disordered currency owed its origin to Congress. The exigency of war has passed, and Congress should improve the financial condition. The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

The bill removing political disabilities from Thomas S. Bocock, of Virginia, John H. Reagan, of Texas, and others, was passed.

A number of petitions asking for the appointment of a commission to regulate the traffic in alcoholic liquors, were presented and referred.

Mr. GORDON introduced a bill to repeal the section of the bill of March 3d, 1873, forbidding the free transmission of periodicals, magazines and newspapers through the United States mails, and restoring that privilege. Referred.

Mr. WRIGHT said that during his temporary absence from the Senate yesterday, two resolutions were reported from the Committee on Finance, of which he did not concur in either, he consented to that reported by the majority for the purpose of getting the question before the Senate. He did not see the necessity of hasty legislation on the subject, but was in favor of additional circulation as the increased population and business interests of the country demanded.

Mr. WINDOM offered a resolution that the Select Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard have authority to hold sessions during the holiday recess, at such places as they may select and that they have power to send for persons and papers. Passed.

Mr. RAMSEY introduced a bill extending the time for the completion of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroads. Referred.

Mr. DAVIS submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to furnish the Senate all information in his office relating to the fixing of salaries of Senators and Representatives in Congress from the formation of the Government; in what cases provisions for salary were made retroactive; how long time in each case was covered by the retroactive provision; the names of Senators who drew their pay under such provisions; the amount drawn by them respectively, with the dates of payment; the names of Senators who covered into the Treasury the amounts due them under such retroactive provisions; the date of such action and also a comparative statement of the total compensation and allowances of Senators under the act of July 28th, 1866, and March 3d, 1873, respectively.

Mr. GORDON submitted the following resolution, which he said he would call up to-morrow:

WHEREAS, The abolition of the franking privilege was intended to economize the expenditures of the Government; and

WHEREAS, Its abolition prevents the general distribution to the people of improved field and garden seeds, thus defeating in a measure the benefits which otherwise would accrue to the agriculture of the country from the establishment of the Agricultural Bureau, and also disorganizes the distribution of public documents, which afford important information, and are educators of the people; and

WHEREAS, To compensate the people for these losses, there should be an important reduction of expenditures in the postal service of the Government; therefore,

Resolved, That the Postmaster General be required to report for the information of the Senate, first, what amount of expense, if any, has been saved to the Government by the abolition of the franking privilege; second, how many employees in the mail service, if any, have been discharged, and how much less, if anything, is charged by railroads and other carriers for mails since the abolition of the franking privilege; third, how much less appropriation will be required for the postal service by reason of the abolition of this privilege.

Mr. BOGY introduced a bill authorizing, from and after April 1st, 1874, the payment of customs duties one-half in legal tender notes and one half in gold.

Mr. HOWE introduced a bill relative to the liquor traffic. It provides for the appointment by the President, with the consent of the Senate, of five commissioners to investigate the alcoholic liquor traffic in its economic, criminal, moral and scientific aspects, in connection with pauperism, crime, social vice, public health and the general welfare of the people, and who shall also inquire and take testimony as to the practical results of license, and restrictive and prohibitory legislation for the prevention of intemperance in the several States of the Union. The commissioners are to be appointed from civil life, irrespective of political or partizan considerations, are to hold office for one year, to serve without salary or other compensation, except the payment of incidental expenses, and are to make their report to the President, by whom it shall be submitted to Congress.

Mr. SPENCER, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the bill introduced by Mr. Fenton early in the session, to provide for the better protection of the Northern and Northwestern frontier and to facilitate commerce and diminish the expense of exchange between the States. Referred to the Committee on Transportation.

The bill to authorize the organization of National banks without circulation was taken up.

Mr. SHERMAN said the bill did not confer any privileges, other than to allow a bank to assume the name of a National bank. He hoped it would be passed. After some discussion, the bill was laid over to be called up at an early day.

At 2:20 the Senate went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. RANDALL offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to the refunding of duties since March, 1873. Referred.

Mr. ORTH offered a resolution providing for a survey to ascertain the practicably of a ship canal connecting Lake Michigan with the Wabash river. Adopted.

Mr. PARKER offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Elections to examine and report the best and most practicable method of electing a President and providing a tribunal to adjust and decide all contested questions. Adopted.

Mr. BECK offered a resolution directing the Postmaster General to report how many employees of all grades it will require to carry on postal savings institutions, as recommended by him, and that he furnish like information as to the postal telegraph system also recommended, when the same is in full operation. Adopted.

Mr. HOAR reported a bill to establish an educational fund, and to apply the proceeds of the sales of public lands to the education of the people. It enacts that the net proceeds of the sale of public lands shall be forever reserved and set apart, for the education of the people, provided the act shall not repeal or impair or suspend any law authorizing the pre-emption or homestead entries, nor abridge the power of Congress over the public domain, nor interfere with the granting of bounty lands to soldiers and sailors of the late war. Without discussion, the bill went over till Tuesday next, and the House then resumed the consideration of the bill in relation to salaries.

Mr. POLAND spoke in favor of the amendment he offered some days since. He said that $5,000 a year was ample compensation for his services, and furnished him with ample means to live in the manner in which he chose to live. He had taken the increased pay, and still retained it, preferring for the present to be called a thief and a robber by the press for retaining it than to be stigmatized as a coward and a hypocrite for returning it. He would, however, endeavor to have the thing regulated so that he might be allowed to return the money to the Treasury.

Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, was the next speaker. He got on his feet with some difficulty, and not without assistance. Then he supported himself with a crutch under the left arm. He spoke with a clear ringing voice, which was distinctly audible in every portion of the chamber. His manner was nervous, and his remarks very digressive, many of his sentences being left incompleted. He was listened to with the closest interest and attention. After speaking of the comments of the press, Mr. Stephens said the gentleman from New York, Mr. Tremaine, had spoken yesterday of demagogism. He (Stephens) maintained that there could be no statesmanship without it. There never had been a statesman who was not a demagogue. There were two kinds of demagogues—the sham and the genuine. The genuine demagogue was the man who led the people. The sham demagogue pandered to the errors and prejudices of the people. He was very glad to say that the increase of salary bill was a measure for which neither political party was responsible. His opinion was that the Democracy, in the proportion of their votes in Congress, were quite as responsible as Republicans. The first great thing to be learned in this life, as taught in the schools of ancient Greece, was to discriminate between that which the multitude thought was right and that which was right in itself. He claimed that when Congress passed the retroactive law of last session it had a constitutional right to do so. He was not saying whether it was expedient or not, but no blush should rest on the cheek of any man, whether he voted for it or not. He should have felt that he was as justly entitled to it as he was to receive a dollar a day. It was a constitutional law, constitutionally passed, and those who were entitled to pay under it were as much entitled to the whole of it as they were to any dime received under it. If any thought it was too much, he (Stephens) would not cast a slur upon him for doing so. He was not going to place a value on his own services as a Representative, but if he were to state what he thought the services of a Representative ought to be worth, it would go far above the figure of any law that has ever been passed. He had given it as his opinion in the last speech he made in the House, fourteen years ago, that if the salaries of members of Congress were $10,000, of Senators $15,000, of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court $80,000, of Associated Judges $25,000, and of the President $100,000, it would be better for the country at large. He held the same opinion still. He certainly should not vote for the bill reported by the committee, but he believed that the most unwise action of the last Congress was the abolition of the franking privilege.

Mr. GARFIELD replied to Mr. Stephens. There were some things, he said, in the speech just delivered, so radically unlike the views entertained by the American people, that they should be replied to at once, particularly as to public positions being held out as prizes for the emolument attached to them. All that the distinguished gentleman had said in regard to the distinction between the genuine demagogue and the sham demagogue, would be cordially concurred in by all who heard him. Public opinion, in some of its forms, might sometimes be wrong, but, after all, there was a place where public opinion finally adjusted itself and finally gave its stamp to what mankind would usually call right. If this were a world where the highest power was the best paid power, the gentleman's argument would have been right; but exactly the reverse of that rule was true. Returning to the practical question before the House, he said that when public opinion held that the pay which Congress had voted to itself was too high, it would be indelicate in Congress to resist that public opinion. None of the bills before the House met his views, and he was willing to vote now for several of them if they came first in order. It seemed to him that the aggregate amount of payment and allowances, including mileage, allowed under the old law, ought to be preserved; only that mileage ought to be equalized and distributed among all the members. He believed that if there was a fair equalization of total payments under the old law, it would satisfy all reasonable demands of public opinion, and no unreasonable one ought to be satisfied.

Mr. RANDALL argued at length as to the adequacy and equalization of pay, in favor of the repeal of mileage, and of the substitution of actual expenses.

Mr. POTTER hoped the law would be repealed, that the franking privilege and mileage would not be restored, and that any increase beyond $5,000 should be confined to future Congresses.

Mr. KASSON advocated the substitute reported by the minority of the committee, and argued that the majority bill would strengthen that element of personal government which has grown up to a dangerous degree. He criticised the recommendation of the President in regard to erecting mansions in Washington for public officials, and in regard to giving the President the right to veto a portion of a bill. He wanted no principle to be established by the action of the House, which would surrender still further legislative dignity and legislative authority.

Mr. DUNNELL argued that there was but one way for Congress to extricate itself from the difficulty into which it had got, and that was by reducing all salaries that had been raised at the last session. The offense committed in the passage of the law could not be so well atoned for as by the simple, unconditional and unqualified repeal of the law. He argued that the repeal should be retroactive. He should vote for the bill reported by the minority of the committee, rather than that of the majority.

Mr. CROSSLAND argued against the repeal of the salary law. He said he had voted against the law, but he will be bound by it as long as it remains on the statute book. He could not return that back pay if he would, and he would not if he could. [Laughter.] He satirized Mr. Cox under his new appellation of "Back Pay Cox," and observed that he knew no reason why his picture stamped on some public documents.

Mr. LAWRENCE said that there could not be found half a dozen such weak-kneed men. They were originally bound up, not for public use but for another purpose. The engraving cost the Government nothing; it was not done at public expense. Whatever might be said, he believed that no honest man had questioned his integrity, and his constituents would never ask to put in any book the portraits of any one who had been unfaithful to the Government during the rebellion. (The latter remark was aimed at his colleague, Mr. Lamison.) The discussion was now pretty well exhausted, and it being past the usual hour of adjournment,

Mr. HALE, of Maine, moved the previous question on its third reading. The friends of the minority bill and all the world knew of such a more sweeping measure than that proposed by the majority bill, in conjunction with those who desired to offer amendments in regard to the restoration of the franking privilege, and rallied to vote down the previous question. The vote was taken by tellers and resulted ayes 100, nays 145. So the House refused to second the previous question, and Mr. Kasson, who had reported the minority bill, obtained control of the subject. He yielded to Mr. Orth, who moved to recommit the bill to the Select Committee, with instructions to report a bill repealing the whole salary act of the last Congress, so far as the same could be done under the Constitution; also to ascertain the average amount of salary, mileage and all other allowances, exclusive of any estimate for the franking privilege that was paid to Senators, Representatives and Delegates in the Forty-first Congress; and to report a bill to-morrow, fixing the compensation at the amount thus ascertained, as nearly as practicable, with necessary traveling expenses, and restoring all other salaries as they were before the passage of the act.

The SPEAKER, in answer to a number of inquiries all over the House, explained the parliamentary status of the bill, and without coming to a vote on the proposition, the House adjourned.

FIRE RECORD.

Destructive Fire in New York.

NEW YORK, December 11.—The fire in 132 Church street proves to have been quite serious. William Tapping & Co., auctioneers, estimate their loss at $25,000; insurance, $85,000. Saltzbacher, Gitterman & Wedles, importers, state their loss at $150,000; insurance, $455,000. Eifel, Levy & Co., clothiers, give their loss at $50,000; insurance, $110,000. The damage to the building, $10,000.

The Jail Fees.

The County Commissioners propose to cut off a portion of the fees which have heretofore been held to belong to the warden of the jail, and compel their payment into the county treasury. Warden Smith makes the following explanation:

Previous to the act of March 23, 1865, the Sheriff kept the prisoners at the jail, and was paid for the same by the county. That act, however, placed the management of the jail in the hands of a Board of Inspectors, consisting of the Judges of the Common Pleas and District Courts, the Sheriff, the Controllers, the County Commissioners and the Mayors of Pittsburgh and Allegheny. That act fixed the salary of the position at $1,000 a year, but since then a supplement has been passed leaving the question of compensation in the hands of the Board of Inspectors. One year ago last April the Board increased the salary to $1,500. For United States prisoners fifty cents per day for each has been paid by the General Government, and this amount has gone to the warden. At least, such has been the case ever since the present warden has had any knowledge in reference to the matter. The amount thus received averages about $800 or $900 per year, and Warden Smith says it has always been considered a part of the warden's salary, and taken into consideration in fixing the compensation.

In case the amount received for keeping United States prisoners is required to be paid into the county treasury, the Board of Inspectors have a right to increase the warden's salary.

More Burglaries.

The burglaries at the East End continue. Wednesday night the house of Mr. Paul Hugus, Penn avenue, near East Liberty, was burglariously entered through the cellar, and from thence access was had to other parts of the house. On the first floor they examined a trunk belonging to a young lady visitor who had just arrived, but took nothing. They next visited the rooms on the second floor, occupied by Mr. Hugus and Mr. Negley. They carried the gentlemen's wearing apparel into the hall, where they rifled the pockets, securing two watches and some money. It is supposed that the thieves were frightened, as the other rooms in the house were not visited.

Another dwelling in the immediate neighborhood was also entered, and after ransacking the rooms on the first floor, the thieves ascended to the sleeping apartments. They entered the room occupied by a young lady, who was awakened by the bright light in the apartment. Upon raising up to discover the cause she saw a man examining the room with the aid of a dark lantern. She screamed most vigorously and the rascals beat a hasty retreat. They succeeded, however, in securing some jewelry and money. Yesterday morning, some letters and papers taken from the residence of Mr. Hugus, were found in front of the residence of Mr. Charles Armstrong.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Aid for the District Government.

APPROPRIATION TO BE RECOMMENDED.

Mr. Stephens Makes a Speech,

AND IS CONGRATULATED BY MR BUTLER.

National Expenditures Exceed the Revenue.

SECRETARY RICHARDSON TO ASK AN EXTRA APPROPRIATION.

Revision and Codification of the Laws Completed.

JUDGE WILLIAMS AND GOVERNOR SHEPHERD STILL ON TRIAL.

Confirmations by the Senate.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11, 1873.

Appropriation for District Government.

The House Committee on Appropriations met this morning and again took up the request of the District Government for an appropriation to cover the cost of improvements around the public reservations, parks, squares and buildings under the organic law of the District. The Territorial government has charge of the improvement and repair of avenues and streets. The amount asked is two millions. The committee require a statement of items in legal form, setting forth the claims. This will be submitted as soon as completed. The committee is favorable to the allowance of the amount. Till the holidays they will hold five meetings a week. On Monday the twelve regular appropriation bills will be distributed among the members.

Stephens' Speech.

Alexander H. Stephens made a speech in the House to-day. He was listened to with great interest and curiosity. Among his auditors on the floor were a number of Senators, including Conkling and Hamlin. After completing his remarks he received many congratulations. When the rest was over Butler shuffled over and made quite an outward demonstration. The presence of Stephens in Congress is one of the best evidences of the magnanimity of the Republican party, and, at the same time, of the revolution of public sentiment among the Southern leaders, there being colored members in the House and Senate. When, in the early part of his session speech, Henry Wilson, now Vice President, replied that a colored man would fill his seat in the Senate, which fact has been realized.

Senator Cameron

left for Harrisburg this morning, to be absent several days.

The Laws Revised and Codified.

The revision and codification of the statute laws of the United States, which has been in progress for eight years, has been completed. The salaries paid to the commissioners amount to $90,000. The present statutes number seventeen large volumes. The revision, which contains only general laws, makes but one volume of fifteen hundred pages. The laws of the District of Columbia are excluded, on the grounds of being local. The Indian treaties are put into one volume, but the commission has not authorized to revise the Treaty Service. In another volume is every post route ever established in the United States. A pamphlet contains a codification of the legislation omitted during the war on military offenses. Congress will shortly legalize the work.

Steam Boiler Experiments.

The report of the first series of steam boiler experiments at Pittsburgh, was to-day submitted to the President.

Deficiency in the Treasury.

The Secretary of the Treasury has prepared a letter to be sent to the House of Representatives within five days, in which he will represent that the revenues of the country are not equal to the expenditures, and will show a deficiency of twelve millions, which must be supplied before January 1, 1874. He will recommend the immediate passage of a law re enacting the duties on tea and coffee, which were repealed at the last session.

Retired Naval Officers.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs will formally consider the application of retired naval officers who ask to be placed on the active list. It is in view of the delicate relations yet existing with Spain.

Williams's Confirmation Sticks.

It is understood that the Senate Judiciary Committee, after a long debate on the Williams nomination, has been unable to arrive at a conclusion. It will be taken up again next Monday.

Governor Shepherd's Case.

The question of the reconsideration of Gov. Shepherd's nomination was the subject of a spirited discussion in Executive session to-day.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11, 1873.

COLORED DELEGATES CALL ON THE PRESIDENT.

The Missouri delegation attending the Civil Rights Convention, headed by Representative Stannard, the Mississippi delegation, headed by Representative Lynch, and Senators Spencer, of Alabama, Pinchback, of Louisiana, and Kellogg, of Louisiana, had interviews with the President to-day. They express themselves as well pleased with the President's remarks.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations: John A. Bingham, of Ohio, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan; James H. Howe, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin; Collectors of Internal Revenue—Edgar P. Snow, Wyoming Territory; Thomas P. Fuller, Montana; Constantine Maguire, First Dakotian District. Postmasters—Charles Franz, Kenosha, Wis.; J. C. Starkweather, Oconomowack, Wis.; Irwin Heath, Oshkosh, Wis.; Jerome L. Marsh, Sheboygan, Wis. Phillip Allen, Jr., Mineral Point, Wis.; Theodore Stewart, Depere, Wis.; Robert Shields, Neenah, Wis.; Luman S. Gilsey, Rockport, Ind.; Cyrus T. Prouty, Carlinville, Illinois; John R. Hotaling, Rochelle, Illinois.

WILLIAMS'S NOMINATION TO BE FAVORABLY REPORTED ON.

At the next Executive session of the Senate, the Committee on Judiciary will make a favorable report on the nomination of George H. Williams to be Chief Justice.

CASUALTIES.

Coal Miner Run Over by a Railroad Train.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MONONGAHELA CITY, December 11, 1873.

John Clark, thirty-five years of age, a coal miner, was run over by the 6:15 P. M. train at Hillsdale Station on the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad. Both his legs were cut off. He was lying on the track intoxicated at the time. Doctors Keys and Richards are now dressing his wounds. He is still alive. He has a wife and seven children living in Akron, Ohio.

The Baptist Missionary Convention.

A missionary convention in the interest of the American Baptist Missionary Union—the National Foreign Missionary Society of the Baptist denomination—began its sessions in the Sandusky street Baptist Church, Allegheny, last evening. The house was well filled, and the exercises were of a deeply interesting character. This convention is one of a series held in different parts of the State, under the general management of Rev. J. V. Ambler, of Philadelphia, the District Secretary for Pennsylvania.

The missionary work of the Baptist Union is very extensive, and carried on with much vigor and success. The Union has missions in Asia, Africa and Europe, with one hundred and thirty missionaries in the field, and nearly eight thousand natives help us. The number of members in mission churches is 52,000.

The services were opened with devotional exercises conducted by the venerable Dr. John Winter. Rev. B. F. Woodburn, pastor of the church, presided, and offered some words of welcome to the convention. Rev. J. V. Ambler then spoke of the purpose of the meeting, with special reference to what Pennsylvania is doing to help on the work of God in the foreign field.

Rev. Dr. Pearson, of the Fourth avenue Baptist Church, in this city, then addressed the meeting on "The Providential Epoche in Mission History." This address was full of zeal, fire and pathos for which all the efforts of the speaker are noted. It is impossible to report the address in our space.

Rev. Dr. Gardner, of Boston, one of the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Union, then briefly addressed the meeting, and announced that he would speak to-morrow at 3 o'clock, on "Some of the Present Phases of the Missionary Work."

The meetings will be held to-morrow, beginning at 9 o'clock, in the Fourth avenue Baptist Church of this city.

A very interesting programme is provided.

THE dwelling of the late Wm. H. McGee, Arch street, Allegheny, was sold for the small sum of $14,000. Mr. J. W. Drape was the auctioneer.

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

Regular Meeting—Improvements Ordered.

A regular meeting of the Allegheny City Councils was held last evening.

SELECT COUNCIL.

Mr. Cochran presented a remonstrance against the approval of the viewers' report on the opening of California avenue. Referred.

A communication from the executor of the estate of Samuel Black, relative to sewer assessments, was referred to the Finance Committee.

The resignation of Mr. Joseph Kirkpatrick, member from the Sixth ward, was presented and accepted, and the Mayor was authorized to issue a proclamation for an election to fill the vacancy.

The report of the Controller, showing the expenditures for the past month to be $21,110 72, was accepted.

A discussion occurred on a motion by Mr. Huckenstein instructing the employment on the wharf of all persons who apply to the Poor Board for relief. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee, the question of ability to pay being an important one.

Several claims were ordered to be paid, and the Treasurer was authorized to borrow $20,000 for the payment of January interest.

The report of the viewers on several improvements was accepted and approved, except so far as related to the opening of Kerr street. This was referred to the Street Committee.

A remonstrance against the report of the viewers on English's alley was referred to the Street Committee, with instructions to report a new board of viewers.

An ordinance repealing an ordinance for the construction of a sewer on Manhattan street was laid over.

Mr. J. C. Patterson presented a draft of an act of Assembly giving the city power to levy assessments for the building of a bridge on Laurel street, over Ravine street. The assessment to be made upon property benefit ed.

Ordinances were passed finally for the opening, widening and extending of Carroll street to the new city line; and the opening of Federal lane to a width of fifty feet from R. Duncan's south line to Perrysville avenue. Common Council concurred.

The committee was authorized to advertise for proposals for the construction of heaters in the City Hall building.

COMMON COUNCIL.

A remonstrance was presented against allowing the location of a rendering establishment in the Seventh ward. Referred to the Health Committee.

Unfinished business was taken up, and a number of ordinances for street and other improvements, passed in Select Council, were concurred in.

The ordinance from Select Council prohibiting persons from riding on the platforms of steam railroad cars while passing through the city, was amended, on motion of Mr. Gackenan, by striking out the word "persons" and inserting the words "boys under fifteen years of age."

The report of the Committee on Gas, covering business already acted upon in committee, and published, was presented and accepted.

A resolution was adopted providing for a meeting on the 31st inst., to hear annual reports.

Mr. Cook, from the Market Committee, reported the receipts for the past month as $2,601 28.

The action of Select Council in confirming the report of the board of viewers on the opening of Preble street was concurred in.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Miss Lucille Western played Camille to a large—considering the weather, very large—house last evening. We think this performance the best yet given here by this talented lady. She gave as natural and forcible a portraiture of the good-and-bad coquette as we remember ever to have seen. It is impossible to hear or see her in any of her emotional impersonations, without being inspired with some of her genius, and at the same time forgetting that she is but acting.

To-night, Miss Western takes her farewell benefit in "Odette, the Forsaken." In the part of the heroine she must be singularly effective. Mr. Goolhold takes "Rudolph." The matinee and evening performances to-morrow will close this very brilliant engagement.

Academy of Music.

"Humpty Dumty," with its mammoth policeman, big elephant, little cornet player, spade dances, Dutch songs and dances, etc., was given by Fox & Denier's troupe to a very good audience last night, the rain of the contrary notwithstanding. It is as full of fun as it can be, and well worth a visit. It will be repeated to-night, and at the matinee to-morrow afternoon.

Trimble's Varieties.

The new bill given at Trimble's Varieties Theatre, last night, was one of the most satisfactory ever offered there. The audience was quite large, and very enthusiastic, as was to have been expected. Another good programme to-night.

Library Hall.

Happy Cal. Wagner's Minstrels will play but three nights at Library Hall, next week—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. They should have full houses.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

Judge White will hold court in Room No. 2 to-day, taking up the following list:

42, McDonald vs. Steam tug "Dodsworth."
186, Central Board of Education vs. Cochran.
188, McCabe vs. McDermott.
191, Riddle, Coleman & Co. vs. Bonner.
192, Taggart vs. Dickson, Stewart & Co.
195, Dilworth and wife vs. Johnston.
194, Same vs. Same.

Common Pleas—Judge Collier.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Hutchinson vs. Padden, (2)
Kauffman vs. Padden.
Earnest vs. Chantley.
Roth vs. Durstein.
Rinehart vs. Charles.
Elliot vs. Haslage.
Wilhelm vs. P. V. & C. R. R. Co.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Oliver Grant, indicted for larceny from the person of John Cober, was found guilty and sentenced to four years and six months imprisonment in the penitentiary. The articles stolen were a watch and pocketbook.

The next case taken up was that of the Commonwealth vs. Henry Ruth, charged with aggravated assault and battery, on oath of Anna Ruth. The parties are residents of the Twenty-second ward, and it is alleged that the defendant, who is the father of the girl, horsewhipped her. The cause of the assault was the circumstance that the girl went out riding, without the permission of the father. The case is still on trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

James Liney,	Catharine McFeely.
John Murphy,	Eliza Caveny,
Geo. C. Frazier,	Gerhart Schmalley,
M. J. Douglass,	Margeret, Edwards,
Wm. McGuire, (2),	C. S. H. Miller,
Isaac Liney,	Mary Fallon,
James P. Morris,	Edward Willi

The Daily Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1873.

It the obscene press could only be brought to see that attempts to blackwash an innocent act or person are fully as bad as to whitewash a guilty one, what a fortunate thing it would be.

THE Representative from the Twenty-second Congressional district of Pennsylvania, appears to be the leader and spokesman of those who resist the repeal of the back-pay bill. His constituents ought to feel proud of him.

THE New York *Herald* is decidedly of opinion that "the honor of Spain is all pure poppycock." In all moral truth, that which we are is the condition of our belief. The *Herald* should be more careful how it indulges in personal reflections.

THE Louisville *Courier-Journal* opposes the repeal of the salary-grab bill, on the ground that the pay which it establishes is not excessive. That paper entirely misses the point. The reason for the repeal is moral, not pecuniary. The bill was a bargain.

A FEW weeks more time would have sufficed to develop an overwhelming majority in the State against the new Constitution. Quite a number of papers that last week were for it are this week against it. The people are just beginning to get acquainted with its monstrous character.

MALEVOLENT scrutiny is often of great advantage to public men; a fact which certain opposition journals that, under a cloak of formal austerity, have lately manifested so extraordinarily quick a susceptibility to vicious impressions, would perhaps do well to remember.

THE magnanimous and considerate treatment which the ex-Vice President of the Southern Confederacy meets with from the Republican members of Congress, not inaptly illustrates the great saying that "there is more joy over one sinner that repenteth than over ninety-nine just ones who need no repentance."

"THE sense of the ridiculous" says the leading Bourbon organ of the country, "is oftentimes the finally convincing force to bring about a reform," and then proceeds to furnish an opportunity for the exercise of this "sense" by denouncing TWEED and eulogizing FERNANDO WOOD. Well might it have exclaimed:

"O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see ourselfs as ithers see us."

WHERE is the man for the emergency? When the bold movement which shall put an end to plundering and restore the good old days of Democratic economy?—*Albany Argus.*

Well, he is understood to be in retirement, engaged in making preparations for the publication of his autobiography. Address WILLIAM M. TWEED, Democratic "statesman," Penitentiary, Blackwell's Island.

THE engineer who has just submitted his report on the engines of the *Tigress*, the vessel which was recently engaged in the Arctic search for the *Polaris*, after enumerating their many defects, closes by saying that "they seem to have been designed by a tailor and built by a shoemaker." This sounds like a eulogy on the provisions of the new Constitution of this State.

ONE of the most encouraging signs of the times is that the people everywhere are getting to be pretty good haters—cultivating the moral sentiment of indignation. Personal heartburning is not a good thing, but a hatred of evil is not vindictive, it is vindictory. What the country specially needs at the present juncture is a good, hard, hot hatred for faithless public servants of every sort and description.

MR. HERNDON, the law partner of President LINCOLN, is to deliver a lecture on the subject of the religious belief of the latter, at Springfield, Illinois, to-night. Not a little controversy, some of it not of the most exalted kind, has been had over this question; so that Mr. HERNDON'S statements concerning it will, from the intimate friendship and confidence which existed between Mr. LINCOLN and himself, possess unusual interest and importance.

THE amount of unappreciated financial talent in this country is fairly astonishing. There is, it appears, hardly a single member of Congress but has his particular pet scheme for the management of the national finances—which reminds us of the case of the rich old maid who had been urged by her friends to send for a physician to prescribe for some of her ailments; but which she steadily refused to do, till at last she compromised the matter by consenting that they might, if they desired, send for *a little cheap physic.*

THERE seems, from present indications, but little probability that either the Postal Savings bank scheme or the Postal Telegraph hobby of MR. CREWELL, will be indorsed by Congress. The first proposition, it is stated, has fallen exceedingly flat, while as respects the second, the President of the Western Union Telegraph Company expresses himself convinced that the sentiment of that body is either so much averse to the scheme, or members are so little interested in it, that there is no necessity for him to remain at Washington to oppose it.

A MASS convention of the advocates of an air line railroad route from the cities of the Northwest, via Cumberland Gap, Ashville, N. C., and Columbia, S. C., to Charleston, is to be held in the last named city, to-day, under the auspices of its Chamber of Commerce. The representative railroad men of South Carolina will be present, and invitations have been extended to leading railroad and business men throughout the West. The project is one of considerable importance. Savannah and Port Royal are also respectively putting forward their claims for selection as terminal points of the proposed route.

BOSTON—which, it is understood, claims to be the center of the solar system, and which, according to rumor, some time ago expelled a member of its councils for maintaining, in debate, that Lake Superior was a bigger sheet of water than its own frog pond—is now indulging a fit of lofty Athenian indignation against the Bureau of Statistics, because the figures giving the value of the imports and exports of the general leading commercial cities for the last fiscal year, place that city fifth in the list, so far as our export trade is concerned, instead of second, the place to which it fancied it was entitled. Boston is exceeded in the value of exports by New Orleans, San Francisco and Savannah; the truth being that the former city is more manufacturing than commercial, although there has been a period in its existence when its commerce equalled that of New York.

IT WOULD seem to be about time to find out who is responsible for the false news continually sent us by telegraph.

New York is the headquarters of Cuban intrigue, and it is from that center that false reports are daily sent out about Cuban affairs. The news dispatched all over the country a few days since that the Captain General of Cuba had resigned because he found it impossible to carry out the agreement between Spain and the United States concerning the Virginius, and that the public indignation was so great that the Virginius could not and would not be delivered up, as agreed upon, was a pure fabrication; and the report of Gen. SICKLES'S resignation, almost daily repeated, is simply a New York *canard*. We do not look for reliable news, on such subjects, from that quarter; but it is hardly fair to load the telegraph down with lies *all* the time.

RAILROAD men generally report the prospects of the leading lines as improved. The panic enabled them to reduce their operating expenses largely, wages have been cut down, needless employees cut off, and many leaks stopped. At the same time prices for material and supplies have been largely reduced. The condition and prospects of the Southern roads, too, are visibly improving. At the close of the war the Government had in its possession an immense amount of rolling stock and other railway material in the South, and in order to help these railroads and to realize the value of the property, the Secretary of War, under Executive orders, sold it to the different Southern Railroad Companies on credit. The demoralization of business interests by poverty, enfranchisment and other causes, delayed prosperity, but some of the companies paid up promptly and discharged their indebtedness. Others lost money, went into bankruptcy and the Government got its share. Others asked extensions and got them, but on the whole, they paid up very well under the surrounding circumstances, and showed that their intentions were not at fault. There were originally fifty railroads indebted. On the 30th of June, 1873, there were twenty so indebted, but thirty-by-four out of the fifty companies have now paid in full, and the remaining 16 seem in part, with a good prospect that the whole indebtedness will be liquidated by the end of the current fiscal year.

THE Chicago *Tribune* publishes a letter from a correspondent in Germany giving a very full and clear statement of the causes of the collapse of American credit in that country, written by a contributor having an intimate acquaintance with the money markets and railway securities of Europe and the United States. Embraced in the statement is a table exhibiting the actual shrinkage in the market values of United States securities in Germany, showing a depreciation to the enormous amount of thirty million dollars, two-thirds of which is upon railways that have defaulted on their interest, and the other third upon those which have not defaulted but have partaken more or less of the general distrust. The effect of these defaults has been so disastrous upon our credit abroad that the very best securities are now unsalable. Real estate mortgages in the Atlantic cities can find no takers, and even the Government five per cent. loan could not be negotiated. General distress, and, in many cases, complete ruin, has been the result of the default. The majority of the victims reside in southern Germany, which part of the country has always been in closer relationship to the United States, owing to the larger emigration, than northern Germany. That there is intense bitterness of feeling among the holders of our railroad bonds must appear natural; neither is it to be wondered at, in view of the proof both of bad faith and deliberate swindling in connection with a number of loans, that there should not only be profound indignation against the guilty parties, but also considerable ill-feeling towards Americans generally. The Germans themselves are to blame, to a large extent, however, for gulping down everything offered to them in so reckless and random a manner.

POLITICS AND HYPOCRISY.

TWEED'S registering of himself at the penitentiary as by occupation a "statesman" has, on account of the comical suggestions of the act, attracted more attention than another entry made by him in the same book. Questioned by the warden as to his "religion," the mighty swindler replied that he was of "none." Possibly the Boss intended to deny that he belonged to any one of the many religious sects of the land rather than to confess the entire absence of religion in his moral constitution. However this may be, a German contemporary, taking for granted that the latter was his meaning, finds in it ground of commendation as giving him "the advantage of most other eminent American scoundrels in being no repulsive religious hypocrite;" and our contemporary goes on to assert that "most of our corrupt politicians call themselves Christian statesmen, under which pretense they practice the greatest rascalities." An assertion so sweeping, if made by a single person in the heat of invective or discussion, might be unworthy of contradiction or remark; but this charge, varying somewhat in terms, while substantially the same in tenor, may often be met with in newspapers, especially in those of the German language. Few Americans of native birth could, we believe, make the charge in good faith; it is, upon the whole, so far from being founded in truth. On the other hand, persons of foreign birth and education, either imperfectly or not at all acquainted with the general spirit of the American churches, may be easily led by superficial appearances to make such a mistake.

It must be admitted that wherever the church in any form possesses a real hold upon the mass of a population, hypocrisy will be more or less prevalent. "Assume the virtue if you have it not" is a practical precept which always has been and always will be followed, whenever a certain virtue is regarded as a necessary prerequisite to prosperity or success in life, and no truth is more clearly taught in ecclesiastical history, as well as by common observation than that the outward marks of evangelical piety may be so counterfeited as to recommend the impostor to the good will and good offices of sincere believers. Such hypocrisy is one of the greatest evils of an established church, and when, besides being established by law, its influence deeply pervades the popular heart, as in Scotland during several centuries, the practice of assuming the livery of heaven to serve the devil in, is likely to become still more common and revolting. No doubt, there is much of this assumed virtue in the United States to-day. Doubtless multitudes "profess religion" who possess little or none of it. One joins the church for the sake of society, another for the sake of patronage, another for the sake of popularity, and so on through the entire catalogue of selfish motives. So much may be safely affirmed in consideration of the general character of human nature and the conditions of American life. And yet it is still true that there is no other country in which the Christian religion exerts a more decided and effectual influence on the people; there is no other country in which Christian teaching more powerfully affects the popular life. We believe further that there is no other country in which there is less of conscious, designing hypocrisy in proportion to the genuine spiritual life of the churches. As to the alleged religious pretensions of corrupt politicians, it is in fact wonderful how relatively seldom the piety real or affected of a candidate for political office is put forward as a recommendation, or even mentioned as a ground of preference. Indeed, many lament that so little importance is attached to the religious profession of candidates even by religious people, and certainly among the least instructed sectarians, religious pretensions on the part of aspirants for office are looked upon with a degree of suspicion which renders them almost nugatory as a means of appealing to popular favor. Hence we have literally none of those lay defenders of religion in high places who, as the secular champions of the church, have at various times in Europe worked such fearful oppression and misery. Here a man may be loudly recognized as a Christian statesman, and he may own the title with complacency, but failing by his life to justify the distinction, the name does not hide either failure or offense; at the most, it secures him time for defense or the attempt to make one, before condemnation.

But we had nearly forgotten MR. TWEED, whose religion was at one time supposed to be a matter of no doubt, if liberality or even gorgeous munificence towards an institution implied peculiar reverence for its object. It seems, however, that the assumption was a pure mistake, if the contemporary quoted above rightly interprets the Boss's confession of faith. The Boss frankly owns himself of no religion, and is therefore what used to be called a *miscreant* (etymologically a *mis* or *minus* believer,) a name, by the way, often bestowed upon TWEED by persons who had no suspicion of its two-fold application in his case. We are able to perceive no justice in the praise for candor or superiority to hypocrisy, of which some of our contemporaries think him worthy.

In truth, the man was a colossal hypocrite of the most dangerous description. He can not be wholly acquitted even of something like religious hypocrisy in his apparent partiality for the Catholic Church. Let that be as it may, of the hypocrisy of benevolence he was certainly guilty. Some famous robbers, ROBIN HOOD for example, in a spirit of real though mistaken kindness, have given to the poor what they took from the rich. TWEED also was lavish in his gifts to the poor, and was widely hailed as the poor man's friend; but unlike ROBIN HOOD, he stole impartially from the poor as well as the wealthy.

"With one hand he put
A penny in the arn of poverty,
And with the other took a shilling out."

THE SECRET BALLOT.

In the days when slavery ruled the Southern States, one of the chief instrumentalities of the slaveholders for retaining their hold on political power was *viva voce* voting. They held the rod over all dependent upon them through that agency.

MR. BUCKALEW accomplishes the same result by providing in the new Constitution for a marked ballot. The vote of every voter is to be known by the number placed upon it. Under such a system, there can be no secret ballot. Every ballot will be marked so as to be easy of identification.

The ballot is of no value when its secrecy is destroyed. Voting may just as well be *viva voce* as by the marked or numbered ballot. Secrecy being no longer possible, common decency would seem to require that the *form* of secrecy should likewise be abandoned.

The advocates of the new Constitution propose to carry us back to the practices of half a century ago—to discard the wisdom and experience that have been learned in the meantime, and adopt the cast-off clothes of the extinguished slaveocracy.

Let every man who is asked to vote for the new Constitution consider that, in voting for it, he votes to abolish the sacredness of the secret ballot, and in favor of putting a mark upon his vote that will render identification easy and certain. The independence of the voter lies hidden in the secrecy of his ballot, and he who votes for the new Constitution votes deliberately to sacrifice his own independence.

PITTSBURGH STEEL.

The Marquette *Mining Journal* says: "We know—and can give details, if desirable—that steel is made in America—in Pittsburgh—which is fully up to the standard of any English steel manufactured—the different varieties for different purposes—and this old song, that America, or the United States, cannot make steel which will compete with English brands, is, as the boys now say, 'too thin.' Indeed, we are astonished that any one having acquaintance with the matter should pretend to say, or be willing to admit, that the United States can be beaten on its quality of steel."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Item for the economical. Wood will last much longer if left for the women folks to saw and split.

A New York paper says Tweed is very gloomy, and "subject to fits of abstraction." Of course he is. He always was. That's why he is where he is.

The Sorosis of New York has voted that its members will abstain from making costly Christmas presents to their families and friends this year. The question of receiving expensive gifts was not brought up.

A Bourbon paper out West rashly invites the fool-killer to come along, just because it wants some other idiots put out of the way.

There is a report that the wife of the Danbury *News* man has become insane. If true, it verifies Pope's assertion that "great wit to madness nearly is allied."

"It is astonishing how I like a man after having fought with him," says the old French Colonel in the play. This is evidently the sentiment of General Sherman in regard to the ex-Confederate General Forrest.

Germany must be a hard country to live in during cold weather, for a German who bundles himself up in countless wraps and shawls, exposes himself to be called "ein kleidungstucke eine gewickelteherr."

A virulent opposition sheet wants to know why the President don't return his back pay. He don't return it for pretty much the same reason that the paper in question does not restrain its wit.

The Mayor of St. Louis is sick of his office, he affirms, and will not run for a third term. The preachers have been after him. Politically he is dead, but it cannot be said he died without the benefit of clergy.

In Spain, when he tires of wedded bliss, the husband, any day, for a real, can hire somebody to shoot his wife, and so get a real, lasting divorce.

Since Tweed put himself down as a "statesman" on the registry of Blackwell's Island, that word is likely to share Dame Quickley's estimate of "occupy"—a good word till it was ill-sorted.

It is matter of surprised comment in Kentucky papers that the new Legislature drinks less whisky than any that has ever been seen in Frankfort. It has a larger number of Republican members, you see.

It is thought that the reason why the New York belles announce "no wine" at their receptions this winter, is because they consider their own charms to be sufficiently "intoxicating."

Japan has moved another step nearer to western civilization. A month ago the Prime Minister retired and a new Council, equivalent to a western Cabinet, was formed upon the plan of our own, with a minister at the head of every department; instead of there being as before an intermediate and higher body between the Ministry and Emperor.

The problem of the Ashantee war is worrying the British government exceedingly.

Bergh claims for the rat a higher place, so far as utility is concerned, than the gambler or thief holds, and says that the principle on which we exterminate rats requires us also to exterminate gamblers and sporting men. Is he far wrong?

The New Orleans *Picayune*, made famous years ago by its editor, George W. Kendall, is offered under the hammer of the inexorable sheriff.

California has about 8,000,000 head of sheep. The wool crop in two shearings, at an average of ten pounds per head, would amount to 80,000,000 pounds, or 15,000,000 more than the total product of the United States in 1871.

Fresh beef from Texas to New York by rail is the latest agitation in the provision line. A company having the matter in charge have ordered one hundred refrigerator cars, in which large quantities of ice and salt will be carried between the roof and ceiling, and will be carefully renewed as often as necessary on the trip.

Chicago is now exercised over the abuse known as "straw bail" in the treatment of criminals. There have been five hundred indictments this year of men who have not been brought to trial.

Local legislation in Beddington, Maine, was lately brought to a stand-still by a firm of lumber dealers hiring the entire Board of Selectmen to cut wood in New Hampshire.

A fair idea of the intimacy of our relations with our English brethren may be gained from the fact that 67,920 letters were sent from New York to Great Britain alone during the past week.

A Boston newspaper notes as a somewhat odd fact the performance of amateur theatricals in one of the churches, apparently forgetting that the sermons of some famous clergymen amount to about the same thing.

"The real and only way," says somebody, "to permanent resumption, is the equalization of imports to exports." As a large amount of our imports are for articles worn by ladies, they really have it in their power to conduce very materially to a resumption of specie payments.

Tweed advanced a half million dollars to finish the Hoosac tunnel, and now the city council of New York proposes to test the question of ownership in the great bore with the Massachusetts Legislature. If they can't get the whole of the hole they insist on a part.

An important movement is on foot among the leading merchants and capitalists of Chicago, for securing relief from the present exorbitant insurance rates charged by the companies that are members of the Chicago Board of Underwriters.

The *Medical Record* recommends the use of mosquito netting as bandages in cases where it is desirable to support a wound and at the same time allow the free escape of all discharges.

The trunk-line between Chicago and New Orleans is so nearly completed that in a week or two one can travel between the two cities in one car, with no other change than that of climate.

The woman suffragists will use the occasion of the tea party to emphasize the fact that while women pay taxes on millions of dollars they have no representation. So the *Woman's Journal* says.

And now comes the cities of Somerville, Cambridge and Chelsea, and the towns Hyde Park, Winthrop and Everett, asking to become a part and parcel of Boston.

An English engineer, of large experience in the irrigating system of India, is preparing maps and plans for the irrigation of the California valleys, to be submitted to the next Legislature.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. S. M. Parker, has just been appointed deputy collector of internal revenue for the Fourth district of Indiana. This is the first lady appointed to the position of collector of internal revenue.

Had him there. Last Monday "Sunset" Cox was more than usually active, spurty, and irrepressible in the House. He was continually at the front, "catching on the fly," and rampaging round generally. Finally, when the House came to an agreement to proceed with the debate on the salary bill in twenty minute speeches, Cox dispatched a page with the following note: "*Dear Mr. Speaker*:—Put me down for twenty minutes." To which the Speaker replied: "*Dear Cox*: I would be delighted if I keep you down half that time."

General W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, was married last night to Mrs. A. T. Bowers, of Cincinnati, at Harrodsburg, Ky. The bride-elect is well known in Washington society, where her brilliant accomplishments and charming manner are said to have delighted all those with whom she has associated.

Everybody will regret to learn that Professor Agassiz is worse. The direction which his attack will take has not fully developed itself, but Professor Agassiz's tendency to brain disease renders such reaction always dangerous. While his friends do not consider this attack alarming at present they recognize the necessity of great care and the entire release of Professor Agassiz from all mental exertion. During the summer and fall he has been working very hard, and has really done more than his constitution would bear.

Visiting New York, while Governor of Nevada, Nye was one day walking up Broadway, when Tweed overtook him with his carriage and invited him to ride. The Governor accepted the invitation, and was driven past rows of magnificent edifices, which Tweed pointed out to him as his individual possessions, admonishing him what a fool he had been to leave New York, when by remaining and co-operating with his friends he might have been equally wealthy. Finally, Nye replied to him that perhaps it was a matter of regret. "But," said he, "I have always thought I should rather die in a poor-house than in the State prison—and, by Jupiter, it looks to me as if that was the only choice left us, Tweed."

A man in Vermont warns the public against harboring or trusting his wife on what we should think were good and sufficient grounds. The preamble to his warning is worded thus: "Whereas the Woman known as my Wife, in Consequence of Attending the Powows of the Jumpers and the Howlers and the Cat Burrers has become entirely Senceless Crazy and Reckless and does nothing but run up and down the road and Circulate the Most Infamous Lels Concerning myself and others thus accomplishing my Ruin."

Parton, in his life of Jefferson, wrote disparagingly of some of his subject's relatives and friends. This has aroused the wrath of the Randolph's, who are among the parties implicated, and one of them retaliates sharply by discrediting Mr. Parton's facts and impeaching his witnesses.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

The Durfee Mills, at Fall river, have adopted the system of paying their operatives weekly, instead of monthly, as heretofore.

The Keystone Forge at Bristol, Bucks county, which has been idle so long, is about to be turned into a mill for the manufacture of sheet zinc.

The Easton banks and manufacturing establishments have nearly recovered from the effect of the panic. Most of the factories have resumed work.

In reducing the wages of employees to the extent of ten per cent., the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company treated all alike, from Superintendent down to the lowest man.

The Sharon *Herald* of the 5th inst., says: The rolling mill of the Westerman Iron Company, which has been standing idle this week, is expected to resume operations on Monday next.

The Appleton Company, of Lowell, Mass., commence to run their mills full time, with full pay until the close of the pay-roll for December. No announcement is made of their action beyond that time.

The statement is made that not less than 15,000 tons of pig iron are stored at the various blast furnaces in Clay and Vigo counties, Indiana. Only three furnaces are now in operation, and these are preparing to go out of blast.

Parties that leased some farms in New Britain, Berks county, a year ago, for the purpose of digging iron ore, are endeavoring to obtain a release from their obligations, owing to the present depressed condition of the iron trade.

The Allentown *Chronicle* says: "We believe it is no longer doubted that the committee having the matter in charge will be able to raise the twenty thousand dollars required to secure the Garsed cotton mill for Allentown."

Work at the North Chicago rolling mill has suspended entirely. A few of the employees might have been employed all winter, but they did not like the mode of payment proposed by the proprietors, so the works was stopped.

At Bristol, Bucks county, the greatest liveliness is being displayed in the industrial establishments. Thomas Hughes & Co.'s woolen mill, 300 hands; the felt factory, 100 hands and the rolling mill, 120 hands, are now making full time.

It is rumored that some of the puddling furnaces of the big mill of the Allentown Rolling Mill Company will commence work soon. Pig iron is being stacked at the mill, and all appearances indicate a resumption of the puddlers' work.

The Meridian (Connecticut) Cutlery Company have started up on six days a week, at nine hours a day. This establishment has been running three days for the past two months. Business prospects in Wolcottville are gradually improving.

The immense woolen manufactories of Martin, Landenberger & Co., Chester county, are now operating full time day and night, though the wages have been somewhat reduced. Beal's rolling mill, Parkesburg, has resumed again. About 400 hands are employed there.

The Atlantic Cotton Mills at Lawrence, Mass., will commence running full time on the 15th inst., and will start up all their machinery, about one-third of which has been idle for two months. The Washington Woolen Mill started upon large Government orders for navy blue for the United States Navy.

The Allentown *Herald* says the Catasauqua Manufacturing Company submitted a proposition to their employees to resume labor. As the company offer to pay more than is paid for the same service at Bethlehem, Reading, Pottstown, Phoenixville, Scranton, Elmira or Troy, it would seem as if they had right on their side.

At Abington there is a brighter prospect for business. Already most of the manufactories have started up, notably so the larger ones. Others are making preparations for an early start, and though none are as yet worked to their full capacity, it is expected that the working force will be gradually increased until, in a few weeks, the factories will assume their wonted activity.

The difficulty which the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company is at present experiencing, by the strike of its train hands and miners, is very seriously affecting the coal trade along the line between Port Richmond and the coal mining districts. The dissatisfaction regarding the ten per cent. reduction of wages, is prevalent among all the employees of the company, and there are at present strong indications that the strike will become general in the mining and transportation departments.

The large Millerstown furnace is approaching completion. It will be ready for blast about the 1st of April. The Montgomery Iron Company's furnace is now employing a full force and pay regular wages. In the Lehigh and Schuylkill regions numerous furnaces which were "blown out" have been "blown in," and where there was general dullness recently now much activity is manifested. Much of the business in the iron regions is attributable to the government contracts that have been given out to the iron-masters.

Very encouraging reports come in from the various manufacturing sections. At the Falls of Schuylkill, the carpet works of Dobson Brothers, which employ 500 hands, and Solin's cotton mills, where 200 hands are employed, are working again on full time. Stafford's and Fitzpatrick's and Holt's mill, Manayunk, as well as Thomas Schofield's mills, Rock Hill, are running again. Campbell's, the Sipha and Seville Schofield's mills, are in the same favorable condition.

At Reading the Bushong Brothers, who closed their well known banking institution during the panic, are arranging payment very satisfactorily to depositors. The Savings, Farmers, Union and First National Banks are receiving and paying out deposits and discounting liberally. The suspended cotton factory is working, and will continue to do so through the winter. The great hat factory, which succumbed to the pressure of the times, are expected to resume soon. All the rolling mills and "furnaces" are in full blast.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the New York *Times* writes: The financial situation in this city and State continues to improve daily. The greater number of banks and banking establishments, which succumbed in the first days of the panic, have commenced business again, and those who experienced no interruption are in excellent condition and likely to remain so. In the Kensington, Richmond and other manufacturing districts in the northwestern part of the city, many of the suspended factories have commenced operations again on reduced time, and it is understood that the number will be increased considerably by the middle of the month. Nearly 3,000 operatives, men, women and children have secured work.

J. Edgar Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, has gone South on a personal inspection of the "Richmond and Danville" and "Atlanta Air-line Railroads," which compose a portion of the lines of railroads now belonging to the Southern Railway Security Company. It is intended, if possible, to perfect a permanent arrangement of an unbroken all-rail line of communication for freight and passengers from prominent cities and points in the South with the railroads controlled by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, from New York and Philadelphia, and points north and west of Harrisburg, via the Northern Central Railway, Baltimore and Potomac Railroad, and Alexandria and Fredericksburg Railway.

The Bedford *Inquirer* says: During these "hard times" and the cutting down of our mining operations throughout the country, it affords us pleasure to announce that the "Dutch Corner" ore mines, upon the strength of which the Dunnings Creek branch railroad has just been completed, will be worked this winter. This is an entire new field, only brought into the market lately, and bids fair to rival, if not eclipse, any other territory of the kind we possess. We have been informed that an extensive tunnel was began on the Holderbaum farm on Monday last, and that when fully opened will be worked to its fullest capacity. The object of the parties at the head of this enterprise is to mine the ore and "stack" it until the market brightens up. Let the work move on.

The Dale Manufacturing Company at Paterson, New Jersey, are now running with the same number of hands they had on since July, and are likely to increase the number. The silk business, Mr. Dale says, is beginning to pick up, and a good spring trade is now anticipated by him and other silk manufacturers. They have new orders coming in, and the situation looks brighter than it has for weeks. Through the efforts of Mr. Dale, who wants to concentrate the silk business of the country in Paterson, a New York silk firm, now employing 300 hands, has been induced to start part of the Dale mill in that city, and will probably get in operation some time in January, and by spring, if the trade is promising, will doubtless employ 300 hands. The Barbour Flax Company, employing nearly 400 hands, which closed one of its mills at the beginning of the panic, and has since been running the other on three-quarters time, will on Monday next start both mills on full time, and give employment to 100 hands who have been idle for two months.

The Danville *American* of last week says: The Pennsylvania mills, which for some time have only been running on short time, were entirely closed on last Saturday night, and the prospect for the future is anything but encouraging. No orders whatever have been received since the 1st of November, and such as were received for a month previous to that date, of a trifling character. Waterman & Reeder have now on hand 3,000 tons of puddled bar and iron and bottoms, 1,500 tons of old rails and 2,500 tons of pig iron, which, in addition to the regular yield, would keep them in stock for a year, if times should brighten up so as to warrant the running of the works at their full capacity. Under these circumstances, and with the present prospect it does not seem best to them to keep on stocking up iron even at the present low price of pig iron when the interest on the stocked iron more than absorbs the difference in the cost of labor, and it is doubtful whether half or any other commodity will ever rebound to its former high price. No. 3 furnace, of the Pennsylvania Works has been out of blast for some weeks. Chulasky furnace will also be blown out, and Nos. 2 and 4 will be kept running all winter, though even this crumb will depend somewhat upon contingencies. The possibility is that the mills will resume operations about the first of the New Year and we earnestly hope that such may be the case.

STATE NEWS.

A Pottsville man of sixty-nine years wooed and won a maiden of fifteen, much against the wishes of her parents and friends. The latter now threaten the aged lover with vengeance dire.

The Norristown *Herald* says: "Some time ago a woman in Davisville lost her speech during a severe attack of illness. A few days ago a kerosene lamp exploded in her presence, and now her tongue wags as of old. Her husband threatens to prosecute the storekeeper who sold the oil, and he swears that not another drop of the stuff shall come into his house."

A Bucks county youth believes in paper collars. One night recently he was going home along a country road when a man jumped out of some bushes and made a fierce lunge at his breast with a knife. The assassin's knife played the very deuce with a box of paper collars the young man had in an inside pocket, but the contemplated victim escaped.

Petitions are in circulation in some parts of Bucks county asking Congress to appoint a commission of inquiry as to the effects of the traffic in intoxicating liquors in causing crime and pauperism, and in its relation to the public health and social, intellectual and moral well-being of the people of the country.

Nearly ten thousand suckers were caught in the cove near Erwinna, in Bucks county, last week. One haul of over five thousand was made by Gilmer & Co., on Monday, and over four thousand were caught by Riegel & Co., on Thursday. The cove is a portion of the Delaware, about one and a half miles in length, quite narrow at the upper end and not over one hundred yards wide at the mouth. The fish are nice and fat, and find a ready market.

Two Lock Haven boys broke $150 worth of glass in the windows of the Episcopal Church in that place, last Sunday. Their fathers settled the bill, and the boys wear cushions on their sleds when they go coasting now.

The printers' union in Titusville ordered the men in the *Courier* office to strike, and that paper will hereafter be "set up" by non-union men.

The Hillsboro (N. C.) *Recorder* says: "We received a letter a few days since from a gentleman in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, informing us that he was at the head of a party of ten or more families who designed emigrating to North Carolina as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made, and that they are induced to prefer the county of Orange."

Boyd Longan, about twenty-three years of age, son of Thos. Longan, of Salladesburg, shot himself with a pistol on Sunday night last, the ball entering the back of his head and passing upward. He was alive at last account. Twice before this young man attempted suicide by taking laudanum.

Mrs. Jacob Gates drowned herself at Churchtown, Cumberland county, on Sunday, while delirious from fever.

Mrs. Stephen Shutt was drowned in the canal, a short distance below Myerstown, a few days ago.

The number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of Norristown is 1,700; the average attendance 1,537. There are 669 pupils who were not absent during the month of November.

A four year old child of Mr. John Detwiler, of Williamsburg, Blair county, set its clothes on fire with a lighted stick, during the absence of its mother, on Friday last, and was so shockingly burned that it died in a few hours.

Berks county allows its prisoners ten cents worth of tobacco per week.

The Prothonotary of Perry county recently fell asleep in the vault attached to his office, and when shutting-up time came around the clerk closed and locked the vault door. Sometime during the night the Prothonotary awoke and found himself a prisoner. With a bible of wood he pounded on the door until he attracted the attention of some passers-by, who released him from the dungeon in a half-famished condition.

Dr. Willis D. Martin, a practising physician of Baldwin, near Harrisburg, was found dead in his bed on Sunday. An over dose of morphine and chloral, to relieve neuralgic pains, was the cause of his death.

A Harrisburg chicken catches mice, if Annas don't write "Miscellany" in the *Patriot*.

The Greensburg *Argus* says: A few days ago, Alexander Lemon, a resident of Loyalhanna township, was found dead in his bed. Suspicions were created that he was the victim of foul play, from the fact that a deep gash was found on his head. Subsequent developments, however, dispelled this theory, and the general impression is that he fell upon an iron kettle some days previous, which produced the wound. His money was found under his pillow, where he had deposited it. Deceased resided about a mile from Saltsburg, was about seventy years of age, and a bachelor. No one lived with him, which will account for his condition not being discovered sooner.

OHIO NEWS.

Mr. L. Rose, a clothing merchant in Tiffin, failed last Tuesday. He made an assignment in favor of his creditors, who are in Cleveland and Philadelphia. His liabilities are about $60,000.

A young daughter of John Mathews, of Columbus, while boiling lard on Saturday, spilled some of the boiling liquid on her, injuring her so severely that she died Sunday morning.

A few days ago, at New Philadelphia, as George Hummel and Harrison Barnett were butchering, and Hummel was holding a hog, and Barnett had the knife to kill it, the animal struggled, and in some way, as they both attempted to manage it, the knife was turned, cutting Hummel across the throat and windpipe. He grasped the severed parts and held them closely until medical assistance could be summoned, and it is now thought the young man will recover.

Certificates of incorporation of the following companies were filed with the Secretary of State on Saturday: The Findlay Manufacturing Company, with a capital of $300,000, in shares of $100, to manufacture machinery and wares composed of wood and iron, at Findlay; corporators—E. P. Jones, J. S. Patterson, D. C. Fisher, J. H. Wilson, W. H. Haven and Chas. E. Niles. The Tiffin Shoe Factory, with a capital of $60,000, in shares of $100; corporators—George S. Yingling, B. J. Yingling, T. W. Watson, Warren P. Noble, J. W. Chamberlain and six others. The Delphos Brewery, with a capital of $30,000, in shares of $50; corporators—H. P. Eysanbatch, R. Jettinger, John Lammermann, C. Sharyer and Alex. Shenk.

The Norwalk *Reflector* says that the present low price of pork is not an inducement for farmers to sell, and though many of them may be severely crowded for funds to meet their current expenses and discharge their obligations as they become due, yet they are generally disposed to hold off for better rates. A great many will kill and salt their own pork, keeping it over in that way. The Springfield *Tecumseh*, speaking on this matter says: "In the vicinity of Clifton a number of farmers have leagued together and are now making arrangements to have their pork packed to be kept on hand for an advance in the market. A shipment of hogs, 600 in number, was made from this city on Wednesday of last week by this club of farmers. They have made arrangements to have their packing done in Cincinnati. Just now pork is excessively low, and these farmers confidently expect an advance before a great while."

California is becoming interested in cotton crops. This year she sends a thousand bales to market, and next year she will go into the business quite extensively.

The Cook-room of the Body.

The food that has been cooked in the kitchen must be recooked in the stomach before it can be applied to the nourishment of the body. As a means of facilitating this second cooking, in cases where the process is slowly and imperfectly performed, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is invaluable. It promotes the generation of heat in the living laboratory in which the crude materials for building up and recruiting the human system are turned into convertible aliment. But this is not all. It acts beneficially upon the cellular membrane which secretes the gastric juice, upon the liver, which produces that natural laxative, the bile, upon the vessels which receive the digested food, and upon the absorbents which connect the digestive organs with the channels of circulation. If any portion of this complex machinery is out of order the Bitters will set it right, thus promoting vigorous digestion, healthy secretion, and the production of pure, rich, life-sustaining blood.

DRY GOODS.

DRY GOODS,
FOR
Holiday Presents!
AT
Panic Prices,
AT
McKEE'S.

Furs, Furs, Furs,
For Holiday Presents,
AT PANIC PRICES.

Beautiful Shawls and Cloaks
FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
AT PANIC PRICES!
AT
McKee's.

A great variety of Choice Goods, suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS, are now offered at PANIC PRICES, at the GREAT CASH SALE, at

M'KEE'S,
No. 59 Market Street.

WHOLESALE HOUSE

Joseph Horne & Co.
MARKET STREET,
Invite attention to the
Large Additions to Stock,
made during the past week, which will be found
UNSURPASSED
IN VARIETY,
And all at the extreme
LOW PRICES.

DRY GOODS, HOSIERY, GLOVES AND STAPLE NOTIONS of all kinds.

MILLINERY & SILK GOODS.

Wholesale Agents
FOR
Harmony Flannels & Fullerton Yarns.

Special Inducements
TO
Cash and Short Time Buyers.

WHOLESALE
DRY GOODS.

Autumn, 1873.

McElroy & Dickson,
No. 54 WOOD STREET,
Offer to their Customers and the Trade generally, their
FALL STOCK
OF
DRY GOODS
AND
NOTIONS
Now in Store and to arrive.

Large Lines of Goods
Are offered at Prices
As Low as Before the War,
And Retailers can now supply themselves at Bottom Values.

SEPTEMBER 5th,
1873.
FANCY GOODS.

FANCY GOODS
AND
TOYS.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,251 56.
Chartered in 1862.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
BOARD OF MANAGERS:
GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. R. Nimick, John S. Dilworth

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 11, 1873.

The money market has ceased to be a very absorbing matter of interest at the present time, the continuous progress which has been made for the past few weeks having brought financial matters more nearly into ordinary trim.

Everything is now working with comparative comfort, the banks being generally in good condition to meet all ordinary requirements of business. There is now no undue pressure from customers, and the banks are nearly all able to do some new discounting were they but assured of a continued improvement.

Rates are steady, but the high range now prevalent indicates the remains of previous distrust and want of confidence rather than any real scarcity of money.

The banks, as usual, charge their customers from 8 to 10 per cent., while outside paper ranges from 12 to 24 per cent., the precise rate being governed in many cases by causes hard to define.

Of course, however, paper supposed to be weak, or rather that is not known to be strong, pays the higher rates, and paper which is always on the market, or such as represents business thought to be largely extended, is apt to be placed in that category, while well known commercial paper can nearly always be sold.

In answer to an inquiry concerning the standing of certain railway stocks and bonds we have to say that the railroad system of the country is at present conducted in such a way that it is almost impossible to obtain information which the public have a right to demand. When an attack is made upon a railroad corporation which effects the prices of the stock there is generally a terrible burst of indignation by the parties in controll—letters are sent to the press and circulars distributed in every direction; yet, strange to relate, the books of the company are not shown.

The New York Stock Exchange has proposed a plan which will remedy, in a great measure, the evil, but in only such cases as where the roads are called on the New York Board.

A sworn statement is to be submitted every month to the Exchange, of the condition of the road so that any trouble of a serious nature will be brought to light.

Under the present condition of things it is not fair to expect investors to buy *securities*, so called, representing a railroad, when the funds of the corporation in question may have been stolen by officials.

Of the actual value of most of the roads running into this city there is no other means of judging than from the yearly report submitted to the stockholders by the Board of Directors, and which contains such information as they choose to give.

—An interesting decision has just been rendered in the United States Circuit Court at Chicago. An alleged bankrupt, after filing a petition, and before adjudication of insolvency, was ordered by the District Court to appear before the Register for examination by the petitioning creditors in regard to the acts of bankruptcy alleged. The defendant's counsel denied the validity of the order to make such an order before he had been adjudicated insolvent, holding that a man is not a bankrupt till he has been formally declared one. On the other hand counsel for petitioners contended that the established practice of the courts was correct, and cited a case in Utah, where the right to order it was allowed. The court's generally have assumed power to order the examination, on the ground that when the service was had upon the alleged bankrupt and the case was before the court, the latter could compel his attendance to give evidence in an investigation in regard to the matter at issue. The decision of the Circuit Court establishes the right of the court to examine the bankrupt at an early stage of the proceedings, which is considered an important point by creditors, as thus they may frequently discover important knowledge of actual or intended frauds.

—Robinson Bros., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R.R.	43¼
Penna. Scrip	91⅜
Reading	84⅝
United Co's N. J	115
Oil Creek	15
Lehigh Valley	68
A. V. R. R. 7-30	89
Central Trans	40¾

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street:

December 11, 1873.	10:30 M.	11:30 M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:30 P. M.
Gold	109¼	109⅝	109¼	109⅜	109⅝	109⅞
Canton	72	72	72¼	72¼	72¼	72¼
Western Union Tele'h	89	89	89	89	89	89
Quicksilver	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾
Pacific Mail	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾
Adams Express	....	....	....	91½	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	....	....	....	98	....	....
American Express	....	59½	....	58	....	....
United States Express	....	59	....	....	....	....
New York Central	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾
Erie	....	....	....	....	....	....
Michigan Central	....	73½	73½	73½	....	....
Michigan Southern	....	76	....	76¼	76¼	....
Illinois Central	98	....	....	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	96	....	....	....	....	....
Chicago & Northwestern	54¾	....	....	56¾	56¾	56¾
Do preferred	....	71½	....	71½	71½	71½
Rock Island	97½	97½	98¾	98¾	98¾	98¾
St. Paul	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Do preferred	63¾	....	....	64½	64½	....
Wabash	52½	52¾	53	53½	53½	53½
Do preferred	71	....	....	70	....	....
Fort Wayne	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ohio and Mississippi	29¾	29¾	30	30¼	29¾	29¾
Union Pacific	81½	81½	82	82	82	82
Chicago and Alton	....	99¾	....	99¾	....	....
Boston, Hartf'd and Erie	....	....	....	....	....	2¾
Marietta	120	120	120	....	....	....

—The following are the quotations for Government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.	Even'g.
1881, coupons	115¾	115¾	115¾
5-20s, 1862	113¾	113¾	113
5-20s, 1864	114	114	114¾
5-20s, 1865	114¾	114¾	114¾
5-20s, new	117⅜	117⅜	117⅝
5-20s, 1867	117⅜	117⅜	117⅝
5-20s, 1868	117⅜	117⅜	117⅝
10-40s	110¾	110¾	110¾
10-40s, coupons	110¾	110¾	110¾
Currency 6s	111	111¾	111¾
New 6s	110¾	110¾	110¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessees	—	78¾	
Tennessees, new	—	78¾	79¾
South Carolinas, July	—	11¾	11
Missouri 6s	—	92	92¾

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 11, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market since our last could not be called an active one; still, all things taken into consideration, a fair business was transacted. The weather was very warm for the season, resembling spring or fall far more than December. Our rivers are bank full, with ample water for all ordinary purposes; we have far more water than business. In to-day's issue we shall only refer to a few of the leading articles; in our next issue we will go into details.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received since our last:

Flour, bbls	1,465	Apples, bush	110
Cheese, lbs	2,000	Potatoes, sacks	320
Barley, sacks	340	Rye, sacks	110
Oats, sacks	910	Butter, packs	20
Bacon, pcs	1,295	Bacon, lcs	16
Potatoes, bush	166		

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted. From store in a jobbing way the usual advance is obtained:

APPLES.—The receipts have fallen off. There is, however, a fair supply on hands. The common stock are, fair to medium $2@2 50@3 75 per bbl; prime to choice $3@4 per bbl.

BUTTER.—The market was firm with a good demand for choice roll; all lots of that kind find ready purchase at full prices, $@30; common and mixed lots have no fixed value.

APPLE BUTTER.—There is a fair seasonable demand, but quotations are unchanged. Sales at 6@7c per gallon.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.—Dull; the supply exceeds the demand; we quote nominally 4¾@5c per lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—Are in good supply. The card rates are:

Extra sugar cured hams 13c; shoulders 9¾c; plain	8½
Sugar: breakfast bacon 11¾c; dried beef, S. C., 15c;	
beef tongues $7 50 per dozen; rib sides 8c; short	
rib 8c; clear 10; mess pork $16 00 per bbl; ham	
sausage 10c; lard, refined, tierces, 9½c; half barrels	
10c; buckets 10¾c; in three lb. caddies 12c; in five lb.	
caddies 11¾c; in three pound pails 12¾c; in six lb.	
pails 12¾c per lb.	

CHEESE.—The receipts have fallen off, but the stock in store is fully up to the demand. Prices continue steady but unchanged. We note sales in small lots at 14¾@15c; in car loadlots at 13¾@14¾c, and dairy at 11@12½c; Younge America 15c; New York Goshen 15¾@16c; Sweitzer 15@16c.

DRESSED HOGS.—Sales at 6¾@5½c.

FLOUR.—The market was decidedly firm, with a good trade demand. The receipts were fair, with a good supply on the market. The following are the current rates:

State amber wheat	$8 25@8 80
State red wheat	7 75@8 00
Fancy St. Louis	7 90@8 50
Fancy Kentucky white wheat	8 25
Good Ohio red wheat	7 50@7 75
Wisconsin Spring wheats	6 50@7 75
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 00@7 25
Rye flour	5 25@5 50

GRAIN.—The market was firm, with an active demand for the various kinds.

Wheat—Western Red Winter at $1 45@1 50; Amber $1 55; and White at $1 60.

Oats—Are scarce and wanted; we quote: Mixed at 47c; White at 50c, as per quality.

Corn—Sales of old shelled at 68@70c, an advance; new car sold at 60c; old would bring 65@70c; the market is bare.

Rye—Nominal at 80@85c.

Barley—In the absence of sales, we omit figures.

GROCERIES.—The market was a shade better; buyers were more numerous, and more inclined to operate. The current rates are:

Coffee—Choice Rio 25¾@27c; good to prime 25¾c; fair to good 24@25½c; roasted one lb packages, 31c; loose 30c.

Sugar—Patent cut loaf 13¾c; crushed, powdered and granulated 11¾c; standard A 10¾c; 1 10½c; C's 4 10¼c.

Teas—Young Hyson 50@$1 10 ₱ lb; Gunpowder 80@$1 25; Imperial 50@$1 ₱ lb; Japan 35@$1 10 ₱ lb; Oolong 75@85c ₱ lb; fancy $1 00 ₱ lb; Souchon 25@35c ₱ lb.

MOLASSES.—Choice New Orleans 75c; prime 68@70c.

Syrups.—Extra White Drips 70c; Sugar Drips, 60c; Amer 60@65c; lower grades 35@40c, as to quality.

RICE.—Choice Caroline 8¾c; Patna 8c; Rangoon 7¼c.

POTATOES.—Are steady, with a good demand. We quote: Peachblows in a regular way $1 00@1 12 ₱ bushel; mixed at 80@85c. Sweet are out of season.

POULTRY.—For nice dry-picked chickens there was a fair demand, at 10@12c ₱ lb; turkeys 14@15c.

PITTSBURGH WOOL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 11, 1873.

We quote as follows:

Fine fleece	40@42c
Tubwashed	43@45c
Combing	42@45c
Medium fleece	38@40c
Common fleece	35@37c
Pulled wools	27@30c

IRON MARKET.

NEW YORK.

December 10.—There is very little doing in large parcels of Scotch pig. Buyers are not plenty, and holders, as rule, are only willing to sell to prompt paying parties. The business, besides 250 tons Glengarnock, part at $42 25, is confined to parcels from yard as needed by consumers. The recent reported business in American pig has been followed by a very quiet market. We do not alter our quotations, which may be considered full prices. Holders, however, are not pressing stocks, while buyers are not disposed to further enter the mark t, except at lower figures. We have heard of no further sales since our last. New rails, both English and American, are still without business. Old I have been in some inquiry, and 700 tons are reported sold at about $31, f.o.b. Rail is without movement. Refined bar from store, 1¾ exchanges, though perhaps the turn firmer at our late reduce quotations. Russia sheet is scarce, and held firmly.—*Shipping List.*

42	13,050	5 70	62	16,100	5 00
6	1,790	5 60	110	33,160	5 05

BOEHTER & BRAINARD BOUGHT.

169	26,170	$4 65	168	25,460	$4 30
166	26,880	4 55	55	14,870	4 60
59	14,390	4 60	83	23,680	4 90
12	3,290	4 50	186	53,570	4 70
102	44,100	4 48	58	13,950	4 65
29	12,660	4 50	115	34,500	4 70
155	39,360	4 50	69	14,120	4 40
60	10,680	4 40	144	36,870	4 55
88	27,110	4 45	67	12,650	4 61
16	2,550	4 40	61	10,100	4 25
163	46,740	4 35	65	18,230	4 90
88	22,960	4 60	273	49,220	5 00
122	23,100	4 70	1	560	3 00
185	115,010	4 80	50		
105	26,140	4 80	60	15,640	4 80
35	9,100	4 80	22	5,510	4 70
96	21,400	4 80	35	6,300	4 65
3	2,230	3 50	1	580	3 50
268	42,290	4 85	354	Chic'o 213,320	4 58

Sheep.

HAZLEWOOD, BLACKSTOCK & NEWSON SOLD.

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
189	17,320	$4 45	116	per bd.	$1 40
170	17,960	5 60	181	15 790	4 65
117	8,260	4 12	204	16,130	4 25
162	12,520	4 25	1		

HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD

	16,670	$3 80	170	16,090	$4 35
81	6,720	4 00	545	52,850	5 10
475	47,210	5 00	179	18,245	5 05
145	14,790	3 87	87	6,770	4 00
45	3,350	4 00			

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD.

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
55	2,920	$5 25	68	5,145	$4 25
94	9,130	5 00	31	2,960	4 25
209	17,710	4 80	203	16,850	4 65
181	18,860	4 50	201	15,900	4 10

RADLES, HAVENS & CO. SOLD.

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
185	15,640	$4 50	181	14,040	$3 50
180	16,180	5 00	96	8,700	4 25
86	7,128	4 25	38	3,090	4 30
79	7,210	4 75	204	16,360	4 90
124	18,730	5 10	117	9,000	4 90
178	15,970	4 80	169	15,900	4 75

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, Thursday, December 12, 1873.

REMARKS.—The oil market yesterday was a quiet one. There were no transactions worthy of special notice. The same may be said of the oil regions. So far as relates to transactions, trade was neglected as if by general consent, and oil could be purchased at low figures. Below will be found all the transactions we were able to obtain:

CRUDE.

In our market no sales were reported here. Prices remain the same as the day previous. The following sales were made at

PARKER'S.

1,000 bbls Union pipe.....95c
2,500 bbls United pipe.....85c

For prices at other points, see dispatches.

REFINED.

We have nothing new to note. The asking prices at the works by the car load was 10¼@11c. No sales were made public.

Philadelphia market quiet; December 13½c; one sale of high test 13¾c.

New York—Market firm; December 14c; January 14¾c ₱ gallon.

OIL BARRELS.

Market quiet, with more liberal receipts; city make held at $1 Soal one way or another.

(By Western Union Telegraph Line.)

TITUSVILLE, December 11.—The "Herald" says: The petroleum markets were quiet and closed weaker. On the upper road the market was $1 10. At Oil City the market was quoted at $1 10. The market at Parkers closed weak at 85c for United and 90c for Union pipe. The home refined market was 53c in bulk, and 10¾c in barrels. Sales:

1,000 bbls. upper road, spot.....$1 15
1,000 bbls, upper road, regular.....1 13¾
2,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 16
1,000 bbls, Oil City spot.....1 10
2,000 bbls, Parker's, Union pipe.....90
2,500 bbls, Parkers United pipe.....85

NEW YORK, December 11, closing 10.—Market firm and quiet. Crude, in bbls, 7½@8c; refined 14c; January 14¼c. Cases quiet at 19@20c. Philadelphia delivery quiet, 13¼c; sales 5,000 bbls, high test, December, at 13⅜c.

TITUSVILLE, December 11.—Market quiet; spot, $1 10@1 12½.

OIL CITY, December 11.—Market weak at $1 00@1 05.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, December 11.—Market quiet and a shade lower; sales at 95c.

PARKERS, December 11.—Market dull with sales at 80@82½c.

PARKERS, December 11.—75@95c, the ruling rates of the market which is dull.

(By Pacific and Atlantic Line.)

PHILADELPHIA, December 11.—Refined 13¾c; crude 7¼c; crude in bbls, 7¾c; naphtha 13¾@15½c; February 13¾@14c; March 14¾c; April 14¾@15c.

PARKERS, December 11.—The market firm at 80¾ @85c. Very little doing.

Refined Oil Shipped East by the A. V. R. R. W. P. R. R., and P. R. R.

Shipper. Consignee. Bbls.
Wormser, M & Co.....John P Logan, Phila.....500
Hunter Refining Co.....Jack Patton & Co, Phila.....500
P Weisenberger.....Warden, F & Co, Phila.....150
Livingston Bros.....Warden, F & Co, Phila.....402
Lockhart & Pew.....Warden, F & Co, Phila.....375
Lockhart & Frew.....Warden, F & Co, Phila.....1,726
Standard Oil Co.....Warden, F & Co, Phila.....1,014
Total.....4,720

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shipper. Consignee. Bbls.
B S Duncan.....Standard O W.....629
B S Duncan.....American O W.....397

Crude Oil Received by Rail and River.

Bbls. Bbls.
Standard O W.....629 | American O W.....397
Total.....1,026

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 11, 1873.

BROWN COTTONS.

Anchor A	11 c.	Idaho	10 c
Eagle	11¾c	Duquesne	9 c
Conewago	11 c	Wamsutta	11 c

PRINTS.

Merrimacks	10 @ c	Richmond	9 @ c
Pacifics	10 @ c	Pacific	10 @ c
Americans	9 @ c	Mourning	8¾@10 c
Allens	9 @ c	Garner	9 @ c
Shetagne Pinks	10¾@c	Light Prints	8 @10 c
Wamsatta	6¾@8 c	Amoskeag	7¾@8 c

DELAINES.

Lancaster	12¾c	American	9 c
Amoskeag	12¾c	Allegheny	9 c
Glasgow	10 c		

DELAINES.

Hamilton	12 to 15c	Manchester	12 c
Pacific	12 to 15c	Atlantic	12 c

TICKINGS.

Whitaker	38 c	Conestoga Medal	20 c
Portsmouth	29 c	Allegheny	12½c
Roanoke	17½c	Spring Grove	10½c

BLEACHED COTTONS.

3-4 Canoe	6 c	4-4 Fruit of Loom	14 c
3-4 Conestoga	8½c	4-4 Suffolk	12½c
3-4 Hamilton	10 c	6-4 Pepperell	31 c
4-4 Reynolds	10½c	9-4 Pepperell	32 c
4-4 Hope	13½c	10-4 Pepperell	35 c
4-4 Lonsdale	15 c		

The following revised list of sheeting, bagging and other home manufactured goods will show the quotations:

SHEETINGS.

4-4 Penn Mill, A	9 c	4-4 Nonatook	10 c
7-8 "	10 c	4-4 Juniata B, fine	10 c
4-4 Pittsburgh family	10½c		

BAGGING.

Penn Mill, 2 bush	25 c	Penn Mill, 2½ bush	42 c
Penn Mill, 3 bush	50 c		

MISCELLANEOUS.

White Carpet Chain,		Colored carpet chain	
fine	23 c	fine	23 c
Cotton Batting	16 c	Cotton Twine	33 c

BUNGS, TAPS, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, Thursday, December 11, 1873.

The following are the ruling prices for compressed bungs, taps, &c., including brewers' taps:

1¼ inch		₱ bbl.	$7 50
1⅜ "			7 25
1⅝ "			6 25
1¾ "			6 25
1 15-16 "			6 25
2 "			5 75
2 1-16 "			5 75
2⅛ "			5 50
2¼ "			5 25
2⅜ " and over			5 25

Parties taking 5 bbls at one time, 4 per ct. off; 10 bbls, 5 per ct.; 20 bbls, 10 per ct.

Special discount allowed on large purchases.

BREWERS TAPS.

15-16 inch		₱ 1,000	$1 35
1 "			1 35
1 1-16 "			1 40
1¼ "			1 45
1⅜ "			1 50

WOOL MARKET.

NEW YORK.

December 10.—The market presents a very animated appearance. Buyers from all parts are congregated here, and business, especially in domestic, is all that could be desired. Prices are still advancing. Pulled wools, that fell during the panic to 37 cents, can now readily realize 45 cents. Fleeces continue active, and O. Ohio are now quoted 38@55c. Foreign is now finding better sale; several Canadian buyers have been in the market, and a lot of Cape has been taken up by them. There has been some inquiry for Montevideos and Australias, but no sales reported. The transactions comprise 190 bales Cape at 32@35c; 250 do sheep skins, 26c; 100 do Montevideo, 33½@36c; 20 do Mestiza, 33¾c; 10 do Oregon, 32½c; 10 do medium Utah, 34c; 75 bags super pulled, 35@41c; 30 do mixed do, 38@40c; 5 bls. Texas, 40c; 20 do Gallaher, 40c; 2,234 bales Spring California, 26¾@35c; 81 do burry do, 25¾@27½c; 98 do lambs, 31@40c; 50 do Fall do, 21@38c; 80,000 lb Ohio fleece, 32@38c for unwashed, and 48@53c for washed; 30,000 ₱ X and No 1 do, 52¾@54c; 3,000 Western do, 48c; 42,000 lb Michigan, 46@50c.—*Shipping List.*

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 109⅛.

NEW YORK, December 11, 1873.

MONEY

easy at 5@7 per cent; closed 6. The *Express* says: "Telegrams from Washington state, on the authority of a member of the Cabinet, that the Government obligations will require the issue of the entire $44,-600,000 reserve before May 1st. The banks are so full of money as to be steadily retiring their circulation, not being able to use them profitably, and are accommodating customers freely."

STERLING

firm; 60 days 109¾; sight 109¾.

GOLD

quiet and steady; ranged at 109¾@109⅞, closing at 109⅞. Carrying rates were 3@7, closing at 4 gold. Clearings $26,000,000. Customs receipts $308,000. Treasury disbursements $248,000.

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	18¾	5-20's, '67	17⅝
5-20's, '62	18¾	5-20's, '68	17⅝
5-20's, '64	18¾	New 5's	11⅝
5-20's, '65	14¾	10-40's	10¾
5-20's, '65, new	16¾	Currency 6's	13⅛

STATE BONDS.

Missouri	92¾	Virginia, old	35
Tennessee, old	79¾	North Carolina, old	34
Tennessee, new	79¾	North Carolina, new	14
Virginia, new	40		

STOCKS

irregular and declined early ¾@1¾, but became strong after second board and advanced ¾@2¾; closed steady. Chief feature was Union Pacific, which ranged 81¾@83⅜; the next promises were Wabash, Rock Island, Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne, Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central and Ohios. Total sales 177,000 shares, of which 25,000 were Western Union, 60,400 Union Pacific, 11,900 Pacific Mail, 9,800 Ohios, 14,300 Wabash, 16,000 St. Paul, 14,500 Lake Shore, 8,700 Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, and 5,600 New York Central.

Banker's bills	8⅜	St. Paul	41
Canton	72	Do preferred	71
Cal. Tel. Co	72½	Wabash	53¾
Quicksilver	27⅜	Do preferred	70
Adams Express Co	91	Terre Haute	5
Wells, Fargo & Co	73	Do preferred	29
American Express	59½	Chicago & Alton	97½
U. S. Express	67	Do preferred	102½
Pacific Mail	38⅜	Ohio & Mississippi	30
N. Y. Central	95¾	Cleve., Col. & Cin	72
Erie	44	Cleve., Col. & Cin	72
Erie preferred	69	Bur. & Quincy	94
Hudson	109	Lake Shore	97¾
Harlem, preferred	120	Panama	99
Michigan Central	73¾	Illinois Central	99
Pittsburgh	82¾	Union Pacific	82¾
N. W. Central	56¾	Central Pacific	94¾
Do preferred	91	Ohio & Miss.	34
Rock Island	99	Hartford & Erie	3¾
N. J. Central	99	Del. Lack	100¼

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, December 11, 1873.

FLOUR—Unchanged; only local.

GRAIN—Wheat—Demand fair and prices advanced; No. 1 spring, $1 19; No 2, $1 15¾ cash, or seller December; $1 16¾ seller January; $1 19¾ seller February; $1 09 for No. 3; rejected $1 00¾. Corn—Demand active and prices advanced; No 2 mixed 53¾c cash, or seller December; 53¾c seller January; 54¾c seller February; rejected 50¾@52c. Oats dull and unsettled; No 2 cash, 39¾c seller January; rejected 36¾@37c. Rye—Steady nominal; No 2, 77c. Barley—Dull and unsettled; fall No 2, $1 45; No 3, $1 05@1 06.

PROVISIONS—Pork dull and lower; $13 50 asked cash. Lard steady with moderate demand at 8c cash. Bulk meats—Firm; parcly cured loose shoulders 4¾c; short rib middles 6¼c; long clear 6¾c; green hams 7¾@8c.

WHISKY—Dead at $5 25.

WHISKY—Demand fair and market firm at 91a 91¾c.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 11.—Cotton advanced to 16¾c. Four firm; receipts 10,000 bbls; superfine Western and State $5 90a6 40; good to choice $7 10a 8 65; white wheat extra $8 65a9 10. Wheat firmer at 96c. Wheat more active; No. 2 spring $1 53a1 56; No. 2 Milwaukee $1 61; white Canada $1 75; amber Michigan $1 64a$1 66. Corn quiet at $1 16. Barley and malt unchanged. Corn a shade firmer; Western mixed 71@71¾c; white 73a75c. Oats decidedly firm; mixed western about 56a58c; in store 57c. Rice weak at 9¾c. Hay and Hops unchanged. Coffee quiet at 22¾c. Sugar dull at 7¾a8¼c. Molasses quiet at 59a60c. Rice quiet. Crude petroleum 9¾c; refined 16c. Turpentine quiet at 40¾a41c. Pork firm at 31c. Beef quiet and firm; middles firmer at 5¾c. Lard firmer at 8¾@8¾c. Cheese firm at 13¾c. Egg firmer at 28¾@30c. Cheese firm at 13¾c.

Buffalo Live Stock Market.

BUFFALO, December 11.—Cattle.—Receipts to-day, including reported arrivals, 493 head; total for the week, 4,100. Market dull for best grades; 25c per cent. about 50c off on all grades from Tuesday's rates; yards clear of stock.

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts, including reported arrivals, 2,000; total for the week 11,800. Market closed firm at $5 25a5 60 for choice sheep; good sheep $4 75a5 00; all offerings disposed of.

Hogs.—Receipts to-day, including reported arrivals, 4,500; total for the week 15,200, against 27,200 same time last week. Market dull with soft weather, and 10@15c decline on yesterday's rates, buyers holding off for still more concessions; desirable hogs averaging 190@200 lbs at $4 25@5.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 11.—Cotton—Demand fair and market firm at 15¾c. Provisions active and prices advanced to $ 00@7 25. Wheat steady at $1 45@1 47. Corn firm; old car at 57c. Oats firm at 29@30c. Oats steady and in moderate demand. Groceries firm; little firm. Rags steady at 2@3c. Butter and cheese unchanged. Pork steady at $13 by 40 bbls. Lard—Kettle, 9¾c; prime steam 9c. Bulk meats quiet; shoulders, 5¾c; clear rib, 6¾c; clear, 7c. Bacon quiet; shoulders, 6¾c; sides, 7¾@8c. Whisky firm at 90c.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, December 11.—Cotton heavy; good ordinary 13¾@13¾c; strict 13¾c; low middling 14¾c. Bran active at 19@20c. Grain—no stock. Bulk meats dull at 6a6¾@6¾c. Lard firm at 9¾@9¾c. Pork scarce and firm at $16.

Oswego Market.

OSWEGO, December 11.—Wheat dull; No 1 Michigan $1 55. Corn quiet and firm at 70c. Barley quiet; up-lake Canada held at $1 62½@1 65; bay-quint $1 67.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, December 11.—Cotton steady at 14¼c. Hogs firm at $5a5 10. Pork steady at $13a15 50. Bulk meats firm; shoulders, 6c; sides, 7¾c. Bacon firm. Corn 56c. Oats 40a42c. Wheat and flour quiet and unchanged. Whisky 90@91c.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, December 11.—Cotton—Demand fair and market firm. Provisions quiet and unchanged. Whisky 86c.

OCEAN STEAMERS.

Date of Departure from New York.

Olympus	December 13	Liverpool.
City of Brussels	December 13	Liverpool.
Republic	December 13	Liverpool.
Virginia	December 13	Glasgow.
Pereire	December 13	France.
Greece	December 13	Liverpool.
Delta	December 13	Bristol.
Erysia	December 13	Glasgow.
Hussia	December 13	Liverpool.
Wyoming	December 17	Liverpool.
Castalia	December 17	Glasgow.
Thuringia	December 18	Hamburg.
Hecla	December 20	Liverpool.
City of New York	December 20	Liverpool.
Adriatic	December 20	Liverpool.
Spain	December 20	Liverpool.
Anglia	December 24	Glasgow.
Java	December 24	Liverpool.
Idaho	December 24	Liverpool.
Trinacria	December 24	Glasgow.
Great Western	December 24	Bristol.
Pomerania	December 24	Hamburg.
Parthia	December 27	Liverpool.
City of Paris	December 27	Liverpool.
Georgia	December 27	Liverpool.
Europe	December 27	France.
Baltic	December 27	Liverpool.
California	December 27	Glasgow.
Minnesota	December 27	Liverpool.
FROM PHILADELPHIA.		
Canadian	December 24	Liverpool.
FROM PHILADELPHIA.		
Vanderland	December 22	Antwerp.
Pennsylvania	December 25	Liverpool.

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, Pa., December 11, 1873.

River stationary with seven and a half feet. Weather cloudy. Thermometer 38 deg. at 4 P. M.

Wheeling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. VA., December 11, 1873.

River thirteen feet and three inches and rising. Departed—Courier for Parkersburg, 11 A. M. Raining.

For Latest River Dispatches see Fourth Page.

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN

JAMES IRWIN & CO.

OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA, AND AQUA AMMONIA.

Office—No. 15 Market Street. Pittsburgh ESTABLISHED 1862.

PITTSBURGH COMMISSION HOUSE, 305 LIBERTY STREET.

HENRY REA, Jr.,

Receives and sells Butter, Eggs, Cheese, Grain, Seeds, Lard, Bacon, Apples, Potatoes, Green and Dried Fruits, Farm and Garden Products. Correspondence invited.

GEORGE STAMM,

Methodist Book Building, No. 131 SMITHFIELD ST.

Repairs and Polishes Pianos, Fine Furniture and Sewing Machine Cases.

Models made in the best workmanship style. Charges moderate.

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 11, 1873.

Corrected by Harris & Ewing, Wholesale Druggists:

Acid.				Magna cal	₱	80	@ 1 00
Acetic	₱ lb	16	@ 20	—Carb	₱	35	@ 40
Citric	₱ lb	1 15	@ 1 20	Manna S F	₱		@ 60
Oxalic	₱ lb	26	@ 29	Morph sal	₱	5 70	@ 6 00
Sulphuric	₱ lb		@ 2½	Nutts No 1	₱		@ 1 40
Tartaric	₱ lb	55	@ 58	*Oil.*			
Alcohol, gall	₱	1 90	@ 2 10	Bergamot	₱	6 25	@ 6 50
Ashes.				—Castor	₱	23	@ 24
Cape	₱ lb		@ 20	—Cinnamon	₱		@ 75
Scott	₱ lb		@ 18	—Cloves	₱	3 30	@ 3 50
Am Carb	₱ lb	25	@ 28	Cod			
Aqua	₱ lb	11	@ 13	Cod liver gal		2

The Missing Water Bonds.

THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUED

Full Statement of John Ross, Secretary of the Commission.

WHAT HE DID AND WHY HE DID IT.

Not a Dollar of Reward or Profit for Himself.

ALL FOR GRIER AND THE NATION TRUST COMPANY.

Bonds Handed Over to Save Cash Deposits.

CASH COULDN'T BE CHECKED OUT BECAUSE OF THE PANIC.

Mr. Friday's Connection With the Affair.

THE WATER COMMISSIONERS HAD NO KNOWLEGE.

The Evening Telegraph Note.

THE MEETING AT ARMSTRONG'S EXPLAINED BY MR. SWOOPE.

That Affidavit Ends in Smoke

MR. SWOOPE STICKS IT IN THE STOVE, AND WHY.

The Investigation to be Resumed This Afternoon.

The Finance Committee, Col. Phillips in the chair, reassembled yesterday afternoon, at three o'clock, in the Select Council chamber, for the purpose of continuing the investigation concerning the misappropriated water bonds. There was a very large audience present, the chamber and the lobby being densely crowded, and many unable to obtain admission. Mr. Ross was present, and there was a general desire manifested to hear him tell the story of the missing bonds.

THE INVESTIGATION RESUMED.

Mr. Phillips—Mr. Swoope, Mr. Ross was called here to testify before the committee yesterday evening, and it was ascertained that you had forbidden him to testify. Now, sir, I want to know whether you are willing that he should come on the stand and be sworn and tell the whole truth in regard to this matter as far as he knows.

Mr. Swoope—Well, Mr. President. I am counsel for Mr. Ross. I learned for the first time, late last evening, that it was proposed to have him examined before the Finance Committee. I had no opportunity to have any consultation with him, or hear his story, or give him any advice. Being unable to come down myself, I sent him word to decline to testify, by advice of counsel, but to obey the subpœna. I did that for reasons that ought to be very manifest to any lawyer. The committee had passed a resolution directing criminal proceedings to be instituted, and in pursuance of that resolution they had been instituted against Mr. Ross. He was charged, not with one, but with several crimes, and his prosecutor proposed to put him on the stand and interrogate him with reference to the very transactions which were contained in the informations made against him before he had a hearing, much less a trial. I apprehend no such transaction ever occurred before in the history of any civilized country on the face of the globe. But notwithstanding all that, while I insist this committee has no power to compel Mr. Ross to open his mouth, I have directed him to appear here and testify to everything he knows in regard to any transactions about which the committee desire to interrogate him.

Mr. Phillips—That is what we want, sir. We do not want to seal the lips of anybody. We want them to talk out squarely and tell the whole truth. We want to get the bottom of this whole thing. We want to screen nobody, and we want to punish the guilty.

MR. ROSS' STATEMENT.

John Ross was sworn, and the examination was conducted by C. S. Fetterman, Esq., as follows:

Q. State whether you were ever the Secretary of the Water Commission.

A. I have been.

Q. For what length of time?

A. From April, 1872, to the first day of this month.

Q. I wish you would state what has been your duties in the Water Commission?

A. That is a pretty hard question.

Q. State generally your duties.

A. I have had charge of the books, and of clerical work.

Q. Did you have any one assisting you.

A. I had a young man helping me since September.

Q. State of what your duties consisted in connection with the bond department?

A. I sold all the bonds, I believe, that were sold by the Water Commission, to any extent, of the new water loan. It will amount this year to nearly $2,000,000.

Q. Do you state you sold them all?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was the authorized fiscal agent of the Commission.

A. A resolution passed by the Board, on the 21st of April last authorized Ira B. McVay & Co., Geo. B. Hill & Co., the Penn bank, the Central bank and the Nation Trust Company to negotiate Water bonds.

Q. State whether under that resolution, you placed any bonds in their hands.

A. I did place bonds with McVay & Co., Hill & Co., and the Penn bank.

Q. State when that resolution was rescinded by the Board.

A. On the 23d of July I think. I am not positive as to the date.

Q. State whether under that resolution, you ever placed any bonds with the Nation Trust Company.

A. They never sold any bonds under that resolution.

Q. Did they have any in their hands, under that resolution?

A. Not within that time.

Q. State when you first opened an account with the Nation Trust Company.

A. It was in May. The bank book which you have will show the first transaction.

Q. In whose name was the account opened?

A. John Ross, Secretary.

Q. What was deposited there, in that account?

A. Do you mean checks or cash?

Mr. Phillips—Everything.

Mr. Ross—They were all checks, I believe.

Q. By whom were those checks drawn?

A. The first was a check of Geo. B. Hill & Co. for $20,000.

Q. Have you the date of that deposit?

A. May 8th.

Q. Was that your first account with the bank?

A. Yes.

Q. From the 8th of May to the 24th of November, how much did you deposit there altogether?

A. I think it was $320,000.

Q. By whom was the money checked out?

A. By myself.

Q. For what purpose?

A. To pay into the city Treasury.

Q. By whose authority was this account opened at the Nation Trust Company?

A. I had no authority from any person.

Q. Where was the principal depository of the funds arising from the sale of bonds?

A. The proceeds of the bonds should be deposited within ten days, in the city treasury.

Q. By whom were these checks received from Philadelphia and by whom deposited in the Trust Company's bank?

A. They were received by me, and under my direction deposited in the Nation Trust Company.

Q. By whom were they indorsed?

A. The Philadelphia checks were indorsed by D. W. C. Carroll, President of the Commission.

Q. Were they drawn to his order?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were they indorsed in blank?

A. In blank.

Q. Was that the customary way of indorsing these checks?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he always do that?

A. Always.

Q. Were the checks deposited in the City Treasury indorsed in the same manner?

A. Yes, sir, I think they were, without exception.

Q. To whom were the checks drawn that were received from other parties for bonds?

A. To myself.

Q. To your own order?

A. I cannot say to my own order; I do not think they were.

Q. Were those checks indorsed by Mr. Carroll?

A. No, sir.

Q. By whom were they indorsed?

A. I do not think they were indorsed by any person, except payable to order.

Q. Were the names of any parties in the checks?

A. They were drawn in my own name. I think almost invariably, except the Philadelphia checks.

Q. Mr. Phillips—Do we understand you to say these checks were drawn payable to the order of John Ross?

A. No, sir; John Ross or bearer.

Q. State where those checks were received from, indorsed that way.

A. There were two checks from George B. Hill & Co., one from Daniel Risher, and one I think from Mrs. Logan.

Q. I did you place any water bonds in the Nation Trust Company bank?

A. I did.

Q. When was the first transaction?

A. I cannot give the exact date.

Q. About when?

A. About the 1st of October last.

Q. How many different times did you make deposits of bonds there?

A. I could not answer that positively.

Q. What was the first deposit of water bonds?

A. $50,000, I think.

Q. When was the last deposit made?

A. On the 11th of November.

Q. Did you have any conversation with any of them about it?

A. No, sir.

Q. Between these two dates, all the other bonds were deposited there?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember when the street bonds were deposited there?

A. About the 1st of October.

Q. For what purpose were those bonds put in the Nation Trust Company?

A. For them to negotiate.

Q. By whose authority?

A. The resolution was rescinded before that date, and I had no authority at that time for placing them there.

Q. Did any member of the Water Commission have any knowledge of your keeping a bank account, or money account, or depositing these bonds there?

A. I cannot say that they had.

Q. Do you know whether they had or not?

A. No, sir, not positively.

[A voice in the lobby—"Tell the truth, John."]

Q. Did you ever have any conversation with any of them, from the beginning of the transaction to the end of it, in regard to it?

A. I do not think I had until this thing occurred.

Q. Was any person connected with the Water Commission, or the Nation Trust Company, concerned with you in these deposits of bonds, or this money there?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you have any understanding in regard to your deposit of bonds or money in that bank?

A. No, sir.

Q. What was your object in putting this money there instead of in the city treasury?

A. I received these checks from Townsend, Wheeler & Co., and deposited them there as exchange for the benefit of the bank.

Q. At whose instance?

A. At the cashier's.

Q. Were any of the directors or stockholders of that institution aware of the arrangement in regard to depositing the money and bonds there?

A. Under oath I could not say they were, but I thought they were.

Q. State who they were.

A. I think the president of the bank knew of the transaction, and I thought Mr. Friday did, also.

Q. Who carried these bonds to the bank for you?

A. I think I delivered the most of them myself.

Q. Who carried the money or checks for you?

A. Mr. Long, I think, made all the deposits for me.

Q. Did Mr. Friday ever carry any bonds there for you, or if you sent any bonds to him to be delivered there?

A. I did, sir; but not water bonds.

Q. What bonds were they?

A. Thirty-third street bonds.

Q. What was the amount?

A. $50,000.

Q. By whom were they sent to Mr. Friday?

B. By Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Swoope—Will you allow me to suggest that you ask him to tell you all about that transaction? Then the witness can give the statement in his own words.

Mr. Phillips—Please state the whole truth in regard to this whole matter. State to the committee everything you know about it.

Mr. Ross—Mr. Grier, the cashier of that bank, by some means, I cannot say how, ascertained I had some Thirty-third street bonds to be negotiated. Two of the Commission for the improvement of Thirty-third street, had called on me and requested me to negotiate those bonds, and I agreed to do so. Mr. Grier ascertained that fact somehow.

Mr. Phillips—State the names of the Commissioners who asked you to do that.

A. Mr. Watson and Mr. Joseph Dickson. Mr. Grier said to me that that bank would be willing to take those bonds and negotiate them, and account for the proceeds; or, in other words, give the Thirty-third street Commission the money from the bonds as fast as they required it. He sent Mr. Friday down to the office to get the bonds. I believe I told Mr. Friday I would send them to him. I delivered them to Mr. Kennedy. Mr. Friday delivered them to the bank. On that account I received from the cashier of the bank $13,000, which was turned into the city treasury as proceeds of the Thirty-third street bonds. That is the whole of the transaction. Mr. Grier came to me on another occasion. I do not know the date, and said he would like to have some more money, that he had got rid of those street bonds, and asked if I could let him have some water bonds or more street bonds. I told him I didn't have any more street bonds, but gave him $50,000 of water bonds to negotiate. He stated to me that the trouble to the bank was only temporary, and that they were in a good condition again in a very short time, when I could have the proceeds of the bonds and the cash deposited there.

By Mr. Phillips—Do I understand you to say that your object in putting these bonds in the Trust Company was for the purpose of aiding them through?

A. To help them through the panic, and to secure the money already there.

Q. Had you no other interest? Didn't you expect to receive some compensation?

A. No, sir, not a dollar. I was never offered a dollar, and never received a dollar from any person on that account, and was never promised a dollar.

Q. Neither directly nor indirectly?

A. Not at all, sir.

Q. Do you pretend to say sir, now, on your oath, that you never expected to receive any compensation for placing those bonds, and this money, placed in that bank?

A. I do, sir.

Q. Will you now state what your object was in putting in jeopardy this amount of the city's money?

A. In the first place the cash I did not think was in jeopardy. I put the bonds there to help the bank through the panic, and to secure others already there.

Q. You had already deposited a large sum of money in that bank, and your object was to secure that?

A. Yes; I gave these bonds to be negotiated, they of course to use the proceeds of them temporarily.

Q. Do you know of any member of the Finance Committee that aided or abetted this transaction?

A. Nothing further than what I have stated.

Q. Well, what was that?

A. The only person that I knew of that was a member of Councils, and I did not know that he was a member of the Finance Committee at that time, was Mr. Friday.

Q. Do you know of any other member?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you know of the chairman of the Finance Committee being mixed up in this matter. It is so reported and circulated?

A. He might have been, but I do not know it. [Laughter.]

Q. Of your own knowlege, do you know that he was in any way mixed up in this matter between the Nation Trust Company and the Water Commission?

A. I do not know that he knew anything at all about it.

Question by Mr. Negley—Were you to receive interest on this money?

A. Yes, sir, seven per cent. on the daily balance.

Q. With whom was that arrangement made?

A. With the cashier.

Q. At whose request did you open your account there?

A. The cashier.

Q. Did any person else ever request you to take money there and deposit the same?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did any person other than the cashier ever ask you to take bonds there and deposit them—if so, whom.

Mr. Swoope—I would like to make a remark. You asked the witness if he was to receive interest on these daily balances. Do you mean as Secretary of the Commission, or personally?

Mr. Negley—We will come to that.

Mr. Ross—I did not answer a question of that kind, I think.

Q. At whose request did you take these bonds there, to be deposited?

A. The cashier's.

Q. Did any person else beside the cashier request you to take bonds there?

A. No, sir, I believe not.

Q. Did you not state, on 24th or 25th November, to a sub-committee of the Finance Committee, that you took them there at the instance of one of the directors?

A. I have named that gentleman.

Q. Did you not then state that he took bonds there and deposited them?

A. I thought I had answered that question.

Mr. Phillips—I understood the witness to say that he had taken $50,000 of street bonds there to be deposited.

Mr. Negley—I am speaking now of the $254,000 of water bonds. Did any other person than the cashier request you, or induce you, to deposit these bonds there?

A. They did not.

Q. Did you not so state?

A. I do not think I did.

Q. D.d that gentleman know for what purpose you deposited those bonds there?

A. Which gentleman.

Q. The person that you mentioned other than the cashier?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he know that you placed them there for hypothecation?

A. I do not know what he did know.

Q. Did you not deposit bonds there for the purpose of hypothecation?

A. No, sir. Every bond that I placed there was to be negotiated. Mr. Grier stated to me that it would not require over thirty or sixty days to fix up everything, and to turn over the proceeds to the city of every bond sold.

Q. What did you expect to do, when you sold those deposited bonds there to save the deposits already made?

A. I have reference to the deposits in that book.

Q. How did you expect to save them?

A. By their negotiating these bonds and carrying the proceeds over—they having the use of the funds for the time being.

Q. You say your account was opened in the name of John Ross, Secretary?

A. I do, sir.

Q. Did you ever have that changed?

A. No, sir, never changed that.

Q. At whose request was it changed?

A. For reasons of his own.

Q. At whose request?

A. It was not changed at mine.

Q. Was it not changed at your request?

A. No, sir; the account still stands there, "John Ross, Secretary."

Q. Was there not a bank book brought you with the name "John Ross, Secretary," and afterwards changed at your request?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever hold any other pass book than the present one?

A. There were two of them. The first one was "John Ross, Secretary," and the second one "John Ross."

Q. You did not request the change?

A. No, sir. It did not make any difference, because the money was there, and he knew it belonged to the Water Commission fund.

Q. Did you ever converse with any of the directors of the bank in relation to this money?

A. Not until the last two or three weeks.

Q. Not while you were making deposits there?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did the officers of the bank know that you kept a deposit account there?

A. I do not know; they say not.

Q. I ask you, if during that time you know whether they did, of your own knowledge?

A. Not to my own knowledge.

By Mr. Fetterman—What I want to know is, was that your usual manner of getting bonds from the Controller and furnishing the receipts afterwards, or did you give the receipts at the time you got the bonds?

A. The receipts were given afterwards.

Q. Did you ever give your receipts signed by the Water Commission at the time you got the bonds?

A. I could not answer that question positively. I may have done so.

Q. How were the majority of the receipts given?

A. I think almost always after receiving the bonds.

Q. How long a time would intervene?

A. I cannot answer any more definitely than I have already.

Q. How often did the Water Commission meet?

A. Some time along in the spring they commenced to meet twice a week, but sometimes they would not meet as often as that. I think there was one case only in which they did not meet for two or three weeks.

Q. Were these receipts signed by the full Commission?

A. By a majority of them.

By Mr. Negley—How many bonds did I understand you to say had been sold?

A. Last year two and a half millions; this year one million seven hundred thousand dollars leaving out the $254,000.

Q. How much cash had this city treasury in hand on the first of May? Would your books show?

A. I could very soon ascertain by my books.

Q. Do your own books show the amount of cash on hand every day belonging to this fund?

A. They show every dollar of cash that was ever received for the bonds.

Q. Did you keep a cash account?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you keep that balance up daily?

A. No, sir.

Q. How frequently did you balance your books?

A. Once a month. I balanced them then for my own satisfaction and to see if they were right.

Q. Was there any money on hand on the first of May prior to your commencing to deposit money with the Nation Trust Company?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why did you sell bonds when you had money on hand?

A. The balance was getting pretty low about that time in the city treasury, and when we did commence to sell bonds they were sold very rapidly.

Q. Do you know how much money is now on hand in the city treasury belonging to this fund?

A. I have not looked at the matter, and could not answer.

Q. Do you know how much there was on the first of the year or the first of December?

A. I would not undertake to answer.

Q. What is the largest amount on hand at any time during the last six months?

A. Over a million of dollars.

Q. Why did you sell bonds to create so large a cash balance on hand?

A. Last year they did not sell so rapidly, and when it came fall there was no sale for bonds; so this year we sold them to have the money on hand.

Q. Did you sell these bonds?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you sell these $254,000 of bonds?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did the Commission decide that you should sell these bonds or deposit them in the Nation Trust Company?

A. They told me to sell up to two millions of dollars.

By Mr. Fetterman—State if you have made a trip to Philadelphia for Mr. Grier within the last five or six months?

A. I have made one for him at any time.

Q. Did he ever call upon you at your residence to go to Philadelphia and hypothecate bonds to raise money for the bank?

A. He has been at my house.

Q. Did he ever come for that purpose?

A. I was going to Philadelphia at that time.

Q. Did you take bonds for him at that time?

A. I did not.

Q. Who was in his company that evening?

A. Mr. Friday.

Q. What amount of bonds did you take that night?

A. I could not answer positively.

Q. When was this?

A. I cannot give you the date. I think it was about the middle of October.

Q. Where were those bonds placed in Philadelphia?

A. I gave them to the Nation Trust Company's book-keeper who was in the counting-room.

Q. You did not negotiate them in Philadelphia, then?

A. No, sir; I never negotiated a dollar for the bank.

Q. State whether these $254,000 of bonds were placed there after the resolution of June or July by the Water Commission?

A. The bonds were all placed there since the first of October, I think.

Q. Did you place these bonds there with the knowledge or permission of the Water Commission?

A. No, sir, not directly there.

Q. Had you any authority after the rescinding of that resolution to negotiate any bonds in Philadelphia?

A. I had; yes, sir.

Q. From whom?

A. From the Commission.

Q. From the Commission as a Board or individual members?

A. I do not think there is any resolution in the minutes to that effect.

Q. Who gave you the authority?

A. It was by the general consent of the Commission.

Q. Did any of them give you express authority?

A. Yes, sir, I think they did.

By Mr. Phillips—Was that confined or limited to anybody who wanted to buy a few bonds in Philadelphia?

A. Yes, sir, that is what it was.

Q. I want you to state what the authority given by the Commission was, whether it was to sell bonds east, west and north, or only in Pittsburgh.

A. The object of that resolution was that no banker or broker in the city, or any other person, should receive any commission for negotiating any bonds of the water loan. As I understood my authority, I had permission to sell bonds to any party who went for them.

Q. Had you any authority to place these bonds in the Nation bank for the purpose of negotiation?

A. No, sir, nothing farther than I have stated.

Q. Was not that authority conferred upon you to sell to parties coming to the office?

A. I have stated what I thought it was.

Q. You have already sworn in your affidavit that these bonds were placed there with the permission of the Water Commission?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Not in your affidavit?

A. No, sir.

Mr. Swoope—It is not in the affidavit—you have it before you.

By Mr. Fetterman—I want to know by what authority the $254,000 were placed there?

A. I just stated my authority.

Q. That is by the authority of the Water Commission?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You state, then, that you never swore in your affidavit that you placed those bonds there with the permission of the Commission?

A. I never swore to that.

By Mr. Negley—The resolution was rescinded in July, and was it not again rescinded on the first of August?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. It is rescinded on the minute book.

A. I can explain that first resolution rescinding. It was not rescinding the authority for negotiating the bonds in those banks. It was intended only to restrict the negotiation of these bonds in Philadelphia.

Mr. Phillips—The minute book says a resolution was passed authorizing the placing of certain bonds in certain banks here, for sale. In June, it says that resolution was rescinded by the passage of a resolution prohibiting the sale of bonds by any banker in Pittsburgh, and limiting the whole matter to Townsend, Wheeler & Co., of Philadelphia. On or about the first of August, this same resolution appears to have been passed again. Will you explain why this second resolution was passed?

A. The second resolution was passed for the object I have just stated, to prevent our banks and brokers from negotiating any of these bonds in Philadelphia.

Q. Do I understand you to say that both of these resolutions were passed for the same purpose?

A. No, sir. Our city banks got to sending these bonds to outside parties in Philadelphia—there, Townsend, Wheeler & Co. were the agents. In August the authority was taken from these Pittsburgh banks so that they would not interfere with the Philadelphia agents.

Q. How long have you known Grier, cashier of the Nation Trust Company?

A. Since 1866 or 1867.

Q. Have you been been on intimate terms with him?

A. No, sir. I never made a companion of him.

Q. Do you know where he is now?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you known anything of his whereabouts since he left the city on the 22d of November?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you been in communication with him in any way?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did Grier ever say to you that the directors ever urged him to get these deposits from you?

A. I do not know whether he did or not. I would not swear that he did or did not.

Q. What is your recollection?

A. I would not like to attempt to answer the question at all.

Q. What is your impression?

A. I cannot answer it any further than I have.

Q. You say you were not on intimate terms with Grier?

A. I never made a companion of him.

Q. How did you come then to take the money to that bank?

A. I have answered that. On the solicitation of Mr. Grier.

Q. Why did you do it at his solicitation; did you pursued for the purpose of depositing them with the Nation Trust Company.

A. My usual manner of getting bonds was to go to the Controller with the bonds and tell him I wanted them signed and that I would furnish the receipt for them the first opportunity I had of getting the Commissioners to sign it.

Q. How long a time generally intervened between the getting of the bonds and the giving of the receipt?

A. I do not know positively, sometimes two or three weeks, sometimes a month.

Q. Were the Water Commissioners aware of the way you were getting bonds and they afterwards signing receipts?

A. They never refused to sign a receipt for them.

I always explained that I had received the bonds.

Mr. Phillips—The question was this: Did the Water Commission know that you were receiving these bonds for placing elsewhere before these receipts were given?

Mr. Fetterman—That is not my question at all.

Mr. Phillips—I put that question then. Did they know when they signed those receipts that you were receiving bonds and not accounting to the city for the proceeds?

Mr. Ross—I do not think they did.

whose name I do not recollect.

Q. Was Mr. Dickson there?

A. I think not.

Q. Was this other person some one connected with the bank?

A. I think it was the bookkeeper.

Q. Was it Mr. Seidle?

A. That is the name.

Q. What was this package?

A. They were $50,000 water bonds and $14,000 of street bonds.

Q. Was there not $68,000 in bonds in the package?

A. No, sir; only $64,000.

Q. What were they delivered to him for?

A. Mr. Grier got him to go to Philadelphia for him.

Q. Do you know why?

A. For the purpose of taking them to Philadelphia.

Q. Had you any conversation with Pollock?

A. None whatever, except there. Those $14,000 of street bonds, B. K. Jamieson had sold, and I gave them to Pollock to deliver to him.

Q. Were they in two packages?

A. The street bonds may have been in three packages, but they were all tied with the same string.

Q. Did you inform Pollock what was in the package?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did the Nation Trust Company ever render a statement to you or the Water Commission, of any description, in reference to these bonds?

A. They never did to me.

Q. Did they give you a receipt for those bonds?

A. I had a memorandum receipt from the cashier for these water bonds.

Q. Did you ever render a statement to the Water Commission of those $254,000 of bonds?

A. Yes, sir; I did.

Q. About what was that statement?

A. It was a statement of the whole transaction with the Nation Trust Company.

Q. Did it refer to your transaction with the Nation Trust Company?

A. Yes, sir; altogether.

Q. Was that in reference to these $251,000 of bonds?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you render that statement?

A. I think on the 24th of November.

Q. Did you ever render a statement before that to the Commission or any member of it?

A. I rendered a statement on the 1st of January.

Q. I mean in reference to your transaction with the Nation Trust Company?

A. No, sir.

By Mr. Phillips—Did you render to the Water Commission any statement showing your transaction with the Nation Trust Company?

A. Not any, except the one of the 24th of November.

Q. That is since this matter has developed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you not state to Henry Long that some of the members of the Water Commission cautioned you and told you to be careful and not go too deep or you would be caught?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever state that to any person?

A. I do not think I ever did.

Q. Did the Water Commission or any member of it caution you about anything of that kind?

A. I cannot say that they did.

Q. Can you say that they did not?

A. I do not think any conversation of that kind ever transpired.

Q. This interest that you expected to receive for the city, to what account did you expect to put that?

A. I kept an accurated interest account.

Q. By what authority?

A. By just the same authority I had for keeping any other account. I received accrued interest on the bonds sold.

Q. When you took seven per cent. interest into the city treasury, to what account would it be placed?

A. I do not know anything about the Treasurer's books, but I paid it in as accrued interest. I never received any interest outside of the regular business, except the $175,000 deposit in the First National Bank for a short time. That amounted to six hundred or seven hundred dollars, and was paid for the purchase of that property from Mr. James McCully.

Q. Prior to the suspension of the Nation Trust Company, did any of the members know of your transaction there?

A. I believe not.

Q. What were your transactions with Henry Long?

A. It was merely an accommodation to me that he placed those deposits there. He had nothing further whatever to do with it.

By Mr. Burgwin—Did I understand you to say that subsequently to the 23d of June, when these rescinding resolutions were passed, that you still had authority to place bonds in the city of Pittsburgh?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. State when given and by whom?

A. I was authorized by the board.

Q. When?

A. In the spring some time.

Q. I am speaking now of after this resolution was rescinded.

Mr. Phillips—I think if the gentleman will get the book he will find that, and he will see that the Commission did acknowledge that such was the fact, and that he was authorized to sell bonds in Pittsburgh to citizens who wished to invest a few thousand dollars in that way.

Mr. Burgwin—Mr. Ross does not understand me. I asked him the simple question when this authority was given to him. I say after the spring, which was previous to the rescinding of these resolutions.

Mr. Ross—The Commission authorized me to sell bonds to any parties in Pittsburgh, and not to give any commission for selling.

Q. Was that authority given after June?

A. I never considered any of the resolutions as rescinding that authority.

Q. After those resolutions were passed had you any authority given you?

A. Yes, sir; by virtue of the authority that was given previously.

Q. Was there any resolution on the minute book to that effect?

A. I do not think there was.

Q. When that resolution was passed in April, 1873, authorizing the negotiation of bonds, did not the Commission fix the amount that should be placed with each bank?

A. I do not think they did. The matter was talked of.

Q. What amount was talked of as being the proper amount?

A. One hundred thousand dollars. Whether it was the proper amount I do not know.

Q. Do you say the Commission concluded to sell two millions of bonds in the spring of 1873?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was that by resolution or verbally?

A. I do not think there was any resolution to that effect. It was talked of in the board.

Q. Do you not recollect that a resolution was passed in the spring of 1873 authorizing Townsend, Wheelen & Co. to sell a certain amount?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was that amount?

A. Half a million of dollars.

Q. Was that subsequent or before they spoke of selling two millions of dollars?

A. Before that; at that time they wanted to give Townsend, Wheelen & Co. authority to sell a million and a half, but it was amended to half a million.

Q. When Townsend, Wheelen & Co. were first appointed agents, was the arrangement made that they should sell the bonds and send the proceeds to Pittsburgh, and that the bonds should then be sent to suit them afterwards?

A. There was no arrangement of that kind.

Q. Did Mr. Wheeler say that when before the board?

A. I did not hear it. But in point of fact they did it.

Q. Did you not hear Mr. Wheelen say he had sufficient confidence in the city to send the money before getting the bonds?

A. I never heard him say that.

Q. You said just now that you balanced your cash book every month. Did you strike a balance on your book?

A. I did not; I took a trial balance.

Q. Did you ever read any balance to the board, showing the amount of cash on hand?

A. I do not think I ever did.

Q. Did you never draw off a balance for the board and then when asked for it afterwards state that you had torn it up?

A. Never.

Q. What was your reason for drawing up a receipt dated October 17th, for the $68,200 and a receipt dated October 25th, for the $254,000?

A. My reason for so doing was that I thought that was about the date I received the bonds.

Q. Did you receive the $68,000 in one batch about the 17th of October?

A. I cannot say that I did.

Q. When did you receive them?

A. Prior to the 11th of November.

Q. Why did you put $254,000 in one receipt and $68,200 in another?

A. I thought those dates would cover them.

Q. You say you didn't get that amount at any one time. Why didn't you divide it into three or four receipts instead of two?

A. I had no particular reason that I know of for doing it.

A SHARP REJOINDER.

Mr. Phillips—Why didn't the gentlemen of the Water Commission make that inquiry at the proper place and time? Why do you ask him here on the stand why he did that and so? The proper place for you to have put those questions was in the Commission. [Applause.]

We want to know the whole thing.

Mr. Burgwin—I never saw those receipts till the 24th of November.

Mr. Phillips—Well, you ought to have seen them. [Loud applause.]

Mr. B.—If they had been brought to me I would have seen them.

Mr. P.—The matter of bringing a thing is different from undertaking to see and know a thing is right. I do not want to see this investigation go on here in this way. It is only a waste of time.

Mr. B.—I was going on until I was, I consider, very improperly interrupted.

Mr. P.—No, sir; I say the proper place for you to make these interrogations was when you first knew these things were done.

Mr. B.—We did not know these things. If Mr. Ross gets $254,000 in bonds and brings receipts for us to sign for that amount that is the first we know about it.

Mr. P.—I say you ought to know it. If $254,000 have been spirited away you ought to know it. [Applause.]

Mr. B.—If I was chairman of the Finance Committee I probably would have known it. [Applause].

Mr. P.—The chairman of the Finance Committee had nothing to do with this thing whatever. This matter was left entirely in the hands of the Water Commission. The Finance Committee had no power, or things would have been different. [Applause.]

Mr. Negley—I call upon the committee to call these gentlemen to order.

Mr. P.—When the million bonds were negotiated by the Finance Committee, there was not a cent out of the way there. [Applause.]

Mr. Negley—I object to this.

Mr. Burgwin—I appeal to the two gentlemen to let the side of Pittsburgh state its case.

Mr. Phillips—You are wasting time and putting questions to the witness which might have been put at the proper time in another place.

Mr. Swoope—I want to know whether Mr. Burgwin is a member of the Finance Committee. I have my client here to be examined by the Finance Committee, and not by outsiders.

Mr. Burgwin—I wish to know whether I have the right to ask these questions or not?

Mr. Phillips—We accorded that right to you.

Mr. Aiken—Mr. Chairman, we appointed you in connection with Mr. Fetterman and Mr. Negley to conduct this examination, and it was understood that if any one else wanted to ask a question it was to be put through you.

ABOUT ACCRUED INTEREST.

By Mr. Negley—Do you keep an account with the Central Bank of Pittsburgh?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. In your own name?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much of the city funds have you deposited there?

A. Nothing more than the accrued interest. I will explain what that accrued interest is. The bonds are all dated April 1st and are to bear interest from that time. When the bonds are sold they are sold subject to the accrued interest. I receive the interest up to the time of sale.

Q. How much does that amount to?

A. This year it amounted to about $18,000.

Q. Is the money still there?

A. Yes, sir; a part of it only.

Q. How much is in the Central Bank?

A. That I could not answer exactly.

Q. About how much?

A. I could not state.

Q. That belongs to the city of Pittsburgh?

A. Yes, sir. The money I have not turned over to the city of Pittsburgh yet, and am not prepared to do so until my books are closed.

Q. Are there $18,000 yet in deposit in that bank?

A. No, sir.

Q. About how much?

A. That I decline to answer.

Mr. Phillips—Why does the witness decline to answer?

Mr. Ross—I do not know the amount.

By Mr. Negley—Is it $5,000?

Witness—I do not know.

Q. Is it $3,000?

A. I tell you I cannot answer it.

Q. Is there one dollar to your credit?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are there ten?

A. I will answer that question if you give me time enough.

Q. I suppose you can tell if there are ten, a hundred or a thousand dollars there to your credit?

A. There is all of that there.

Q. All of what?

Mr. Phillips—Will the witness state the amount as near as he can?

A. I think there is $2,500.

By Mr. Negley—What has become of the balance?

A. Part of it is charged to commission account.

Q. Did you have any more than this $2,500 deposited in this bank?

A. That I could not answer.

Q. Did you have $10,000?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Had you $20,000?

A. I could not say.

Q. Was it somewhere between $10,000 to $20,000?

A. Well, sir, I did not say.

Q. Was there $15,000?

A. I would not pretend to answer any closer than I have.

Q. What became of the money you drew out of that account.

A. Well, sir, I can account for it to a dollar.

Q. What did you do with it?

A. There is part of it in this building.

Q. Who has it?

A. I decline to answer.

Q. Who has possession of it?

A. That is what I decline to answer.

THE QUESTION OF COMMITMENT FOR CONTEMPT AGAIN.

Mr. Negley—Now comes the question, Mr. Chairman and the Committee, as to the authority of the Mayor.

Mr. Phillips—I do not see why the witness refuses to answer that question. It is a proper one.

Mr. Swoope—(Aside to Ross)—Tell him you have.

Mr. Swoope, publicly—Every dollar is ready to be accounted for.

Mr. Negley—He said it is in this building, and I want to know where.

Mr. Ross—I have the money.

Mr. Negley—You have it? In your pockets?

Mr. Ross—I decline to answer that question. Q. I want to know if you have it on your person?

A. I have it; yes, sir.

Q. How much money have you on your person? I want to know where.

(No answer.)

Mr. Phillips—There ought to be no hesitation in answering that question.

Mr. Ross—I have enough to square my accounts with the city in an hour or five minutes.

Mr. Negley—How much money have you on your person from that belongs to the city?

A. I did not say I had a dollar that belongs to the city.

Q. This money you have, you say, you got out of the account that belongs to the city of Pittsburgh.

A. I decline to go further with the particulars of the account.

Mr. Negley—I move then that we send for the Mayor and commit the witness for contempt in refusing to answer.

Mr. Swoope—Try it on, try it on, if you can.

Mr. Phillips—He does deny that you have any right here except to instruct your client.

Mr. Swoope—I have a right here.

Mr. Phillips—He is here by invitation of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Negley—That is no such thing. He is here in pursuance of a subpœna served upon him. [Applause.]

Mr. Phillips—I extended an invitation to him to be here.

Mr. Negley—Who extended an invitation?

Mr. Phillips—Why I did.

Mr. Negley—You had no right.

Mr. Phillips—The committee had the right and so instructed last night.

Mr. Negley—Well that is not the question. Now, gentlemen, I make the motion that we send for the Mayor and place him under arrest for refusing to answer.

Mr. Phillips—I think this ought to be stopped. The witness has answered that he is ready to account for every dollar of the city's money in his possession. Now if you are trying to make a case which is to be tried in the courts, he has rights here and is entitled to protection. He has come here at the invitation of the chairman, and we must not crush the witness.

Mr. Negley—There has been too much of this protection of criminals. [Applause]

Mr. Swoope—If my client is going to be called a criminal while testifying on the witness stand, I will instruct him to stop.

Mr. Phillips—He has outside here and told us the whole story almost to the last clap of the bell.

Mr. Aiken—Mr. Swoope is here by invitation given by myself and Mr. Follansbee, the Democratic members of the committee to make a good investment that will pay largely on the amount invested, at the same time affording a good rate of interest on the value, as all we know the property know it to be among the most valuable in the city.

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